

WESTERN CANADA

**MANITOBA, ALBERTA,
ASSINIBOIA,
SASKATCHEWAN,
AND
NORTHERN ONTARIO.**

1899

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AND

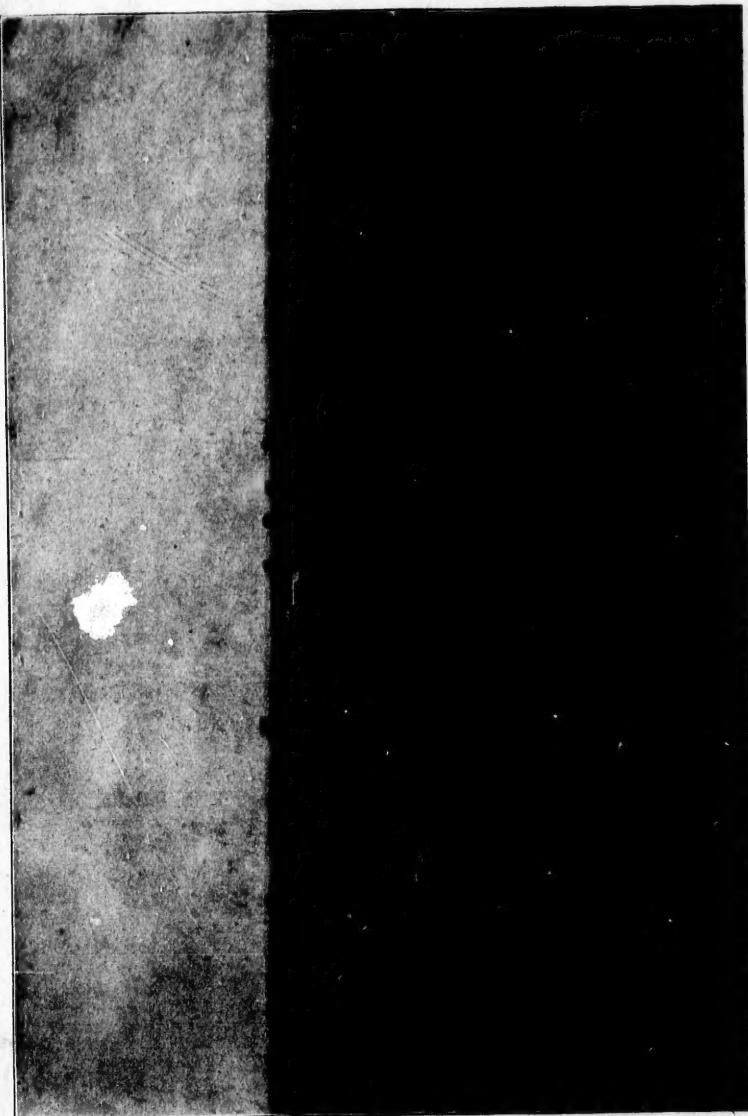
NORTHERN ONTARIO.

How to Get There, How to Select Lands,

How to Make a Home.

1899

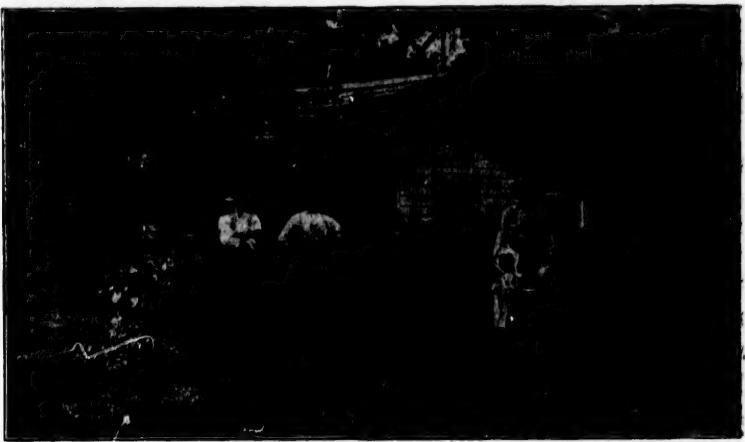
GOVERNMENT FARM AT INDIAN HEAD, ASSINIBOIA.



WESTERN CANADA.

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TEN YEARS AGO.



AND NOW—

A. P. Stevenson's Home at Nelson, Manitoba.

WESTERN CANADA

CONSISTING OF

**MANITOBA, ASSINIBOIA, SASKATCHEWAN, ALBERTA
AND NORTHERN ONTARIO.**

THE COUNTRY TO SETTLE IN.

The Dominion of Canada is territorially one of the greatest countries of the world. It occupies the northern half of the continent of North America, stretching across from the Atlantic to the Pacific, a distance of over four thousand miles, and is divided into the Provinces of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia, and the several Territorial districts, the principal of which—Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta—with Manitoba, constitute what is generally known as Western Canada.

Canada, until a very recent date, consisted of the British Colonies along the Atlantic seaboard, but since the consolidation of the provinces into one strong Confederation in 1867, all portions of its great territory have been opened up by railways and canals, and a development magical in its rapidity, has resulted.

Its population is now about five and one-half millions, and rapidly growing. The gigantic proportions which its commerce is assuming is indicated by the Government trade statistics for the year ending June 30th, 1898. During that year Canada imported from Great Britain goods to the value of \$32,827,043; from the United States \$86,587,484; from other countries \$20,891,423, a total of \$140,305,930. The total exports for the same period were \$159,485,770; Canadian produce \$141,079,469; foreign products, \$18,406,301; to Great Britain, \$104,787,554; to United States, \$41,122,556; to other countries, \$15,575,660. The exports were composed as follows: Produce of mine, \$14,694,054; fisheries, \$10,913,977; forests, \$27,043,083; commercial, \$46,136,138; agricultural, \$45,727,768; manufactures, \$11,831,762; miscellaneous, \$455,959; coin and bullion,

\$4,623,049. The total trade of the country for the year aggregated the enormous sum of \$299,791,740, a gain of \$56,000,000 over the figures for the previous year, and of \$76,000,000 over the returns for 1896. Nothing else could speak so eloquently of the gigantic strides forward now being taken by Canada. But some other statistics are also significant. Thus, the average public deposits in the banks for the five years 1883-87 amounted to (approximately) \$100,000,000; for the succeeding five years, 1888-92, they amounted to \$134,771,032; and for the five years 1893-97, to \$184,000,000. On 30th of September, 1898, the amount on deposit was no less than \$238,573,704.

The value of the total production of principal metallic minerals in Canada in 1887 is estimated at \$2,118,120; in 1897 the value amounted to \$13,996,-234. It is estimated that the total output of metallic minerals during the year 1899 over the whole Dominion will amount to \$25,000,000. The production of non-metallic minerals amounted in 1887 to \$9,000,000, and in 1897 to \$14,500,000.

But despite its great resources in its fisheries, its forests and its mines, Canada's greatest source of wealth is in its soil; and it is as an agricultural country that it principally appeals to immigrants. For them, if they are willing and capable, it offers a competence in its fertile and easily acquired lands. While all the provinces contain arable land, open for settlement, the distinctively agricultural section is that known as "Western Canada," a term, embracing, roughly, the Canadian prairies, which begin in Manitoba and run westward a clear thousand miles to the Rocky Mountains, and northward to beyond the great Saskatchewan River, an area capable of raising enough grain to feed all Europe. It is of this great region that this book principally deals. From it the reader will learn what the general features of the several divisions of Western Canada are, and what kind of farming suits each locality. Some districts are suitable for ranching, some for wheat growing, some for dairying, some for mixed farming. The information about each locality is supplied in great part by the residents who, having themselves been successful, are willing to encourage new settlers by giving them the benefit of their experience. The story of success told in these pages by happy and prosperous farmers could be duplicated from no other part of the world.

This book also contains information concerning the best way of getting to the west, full particulars of government and railway land regulations, the principal towns and markets, etc.

In this vast country there are millions of acres of land yet open for settlement, but the tide of immigration is setting in from all parts of the world. According to the British Board of Trade Statistical Emigration tables for 1898, there is a decrease in the immigration to the United States, Australia, South Africa, and all other countries, except Canada, which shows an increase of 20 per cent. over the previous year. The number of free government homesteads taken up in Western Canada is annually increasing,

and in 1898 the land sales of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company almost doubled those of 1897, being 350,000 acres at an average value of \$3.25 (about 13 shillings) per acre against 200,000 acres sold in 1897. In a few years, it is evident, the best locations will be occupied. The present is the most opportune time that has ever presented itself for settlement in Western Canada. There is a ready market at good prices for all kinds of farm produce, and land is yet obtainable, either free or on almost nominal terms. With the rapidity which marks the onward movement there is bound to be an upward tendency before long in the value of land. The wise man is he who forestalls that time by a prompt selection of his farm.

As to the present prosperity of farmers in Western Canada, the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, at a recent gathering, gave some interesting particulars. He pointed out that in 1872 there was but one bank in Manitoba. That sufficed for six years, but by 1880 there were six banks west of the Great Lakes. Now there were 194. The Winnipeg bank clearings are now the third most important in all Canada. Manitoba showed steady growth, and if the present prosperity continued for a few years, the farmers of Manitoba would be forming loan societies to lend money to farmers elsewhere.

This prosperity is open to all who choose to share in it. How best to secure it, a careful perusal of this little book will tell.

Topography and Climate of Western Canada

Dr. George M. Dawson, C.M.G., Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, speaking of the Great Northwest of Canada, or The Interior Continental Plain, says : "Thus on the 49th parallel, constituting here the southern boundary of Canada, the plain has a width of 800 miles," and narrows gradually to the northward, extending to the Arctic Ocean. "The southern part of this great plain is not only the most important from an economic point of view, but is also that about which most is known. It includes the wide prairie country of the Canadian West, with a spread of 193,000 square miles of open grass land, an area more than twice that of Great Britain."

The whole country spreading from the forest region of the east to the Rocky Mountains on the west, is very concisely described in "Climates of Canada," by Dr. P. H. Bryce, M.A., M.D., secretary of the Provincial Board of Health of Ontario, who says :

"The lowest area of the plains is that of Manitoba, the Red River from the south, the Saskatchewan from the west, and their tributaries all trending towards Lake Winnipeg and thence to Hudson's Bay. All this great area extending for some distance to the height of land in Dakota, U.S., shows evidences of once having been an immense inland sea, with its several beaches, marking more or less distinctly the successive levels of the waters of what geologists have chosen to call the great post-glacial Lake Agassiz. A black alluvium of the richest nature covers practically the whole of this

country, and makes the great wheat-fields of the Canadian Northwest, yielding their 'Manitoba No. 1 hard.' The lowest area of this region is limited westward by the Pembina Mountains, Riding Mountains, and the Porcupine Hills, having a general level of 800 feet. Westward the next area reaches a height of some 1,500 feet, and runs westward some 250 miles, when the next elevation of 2,000 feet is reached. This country, the Grand Coteau, rises till a height of 4,000 feet is reached in the foothills of the Rockies in the region about Calgary. This upland shows more evidences of deep erosion of the valleys of its streams, and has here and there bluffs with high hills and plateaus, notably the Cypress Hills north of the American desert, with climatic peculiarities quite its own. This whole higher region, marked notably by a greater dryness, is essentially a grazing or ranching country. While cold, owing to the altitude and the exposure of its plains to the winds from the mountains, its dry plains are, nevertheless, covered with the peculiar bunch grass of the country, which has served to make the foothills of the Rockies the greatest stock-raising areas of the continent. The climate of the whole great prairie country of the Canadian Northwest is marked by seasonal rather than daily extremes, except in the higher foothills of the mountains to the west, where the daily range is notable." Referring in still more definite language to the climate of this splendid agricultural region, the remarks of Mr. R. F. Stupart, Superintendent of the Geological Survey of Canada, will be read with much interest by those familiar with the climate of England and Eastern Canada: "The salient features of the climate of the Canadian Northwest Territories are a clear, bracing atmosphere during the greater part of the year, cold winters and warm summers and a small rainfall and snowfall." "The mean temperature for July at Winnipeg is 66° and at Prince Albert 62°. The former temperature is higher than in any part of England, and the latter is very similar to that found in many parts of the Southern counties. The diurnal range, however, is different from any found in England, the average daily maximum temperature at Winnipeg being 78°, with a minimum of 53° and at Prince Albert a maximum of 76°, with a minimum of 48°; and owing to these high day temperatures with much sunshine the crops come to maturity quickly."

"In April the monthly mean temperature of 40° is found in Alberta and Assiniboina, and passes eastward to Manitoba, indicating a spring slightly in advance of southwestern Ontario, on the 42nd parallel of latitude. Spring in April makes rapid strides in Manitoba, with an average day temperature of 48°.

"In considering the climate of the Canadian prairies, the fact should not be lost sight of that although the total rainfall averages only 13.35 inches for the Territories and 17.34 inches in Manitoba, the amounts falling between April 1st and October 1st are respectively 9.39 inches and 12.87 inches, or 70.3 and 74.2 per cent. of the whole. The average 12.87 inches in Manitoba is not far short of the average for Ontario during the same six months."

Again quoting from "Climates of Canada":

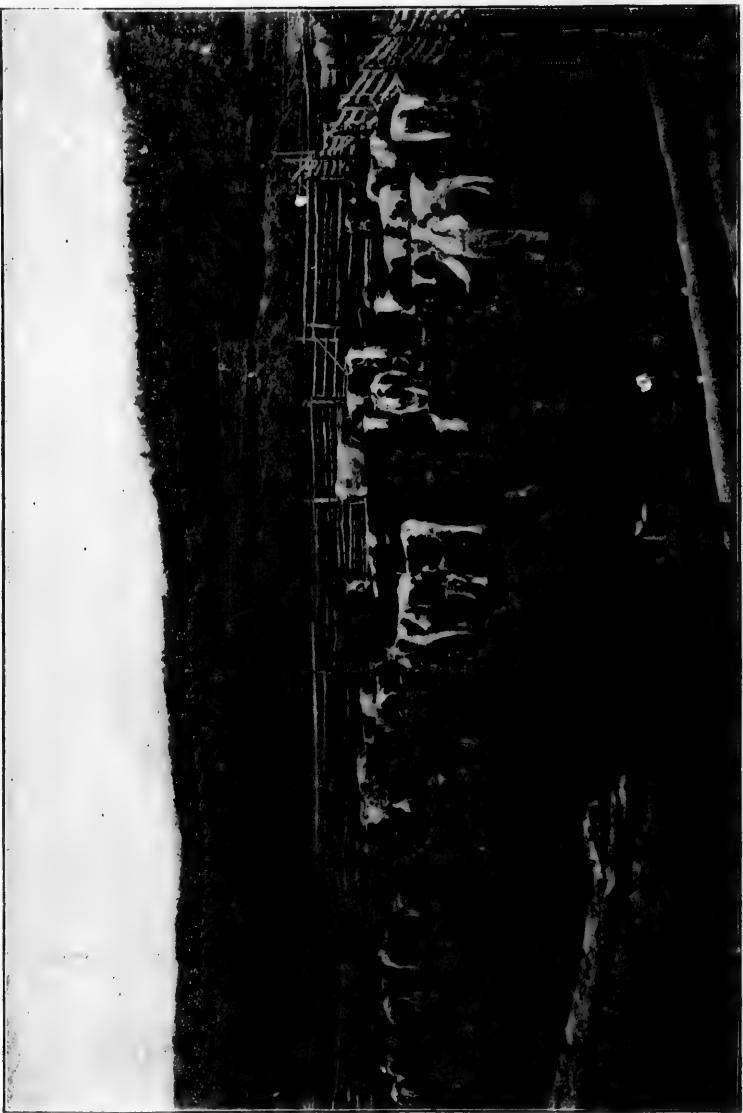
"The bright, clear cold of the ordinary winter day of Manitoba is most enjoyable. With little or no thawing and no sea of uncongealed great freshwater lake to supply dampness, the air is crisp and dry, and where in England or on the seacoast, with a few degrees of frost the air is chill and raw, many more degrees of cold in the Canadian Northwest is only enjoyable and stimulating.

"The winter goes, at it comes, almost in a day. The crescent sun pours his powerful rays through the transparent atmosphere, and, when the thaw has begun, the great atmospheric disturbances, caused by the heated

centres, cause the northwest wind to blow and lick up the water, which covers the plains, seemingly all in a day. One has not infrequently seen the water on the low ground a foot deep in the morning and gone in the evening; while in another day or two the black alluvium, which like the blackened plate of glass, absorbs heat in seemingly enormous quantities, is dry and powdery on the fields ploughed in the autumn. Seeding proceeds when the frost is not more than four inches out of the ground. Then in a few days the prairie is dotted with the spring flowers. Seldom is the spring long, damp and cold. Spring comes, growth is phenomenal, and the harvest of spring wheat is ripened in the middle of August. With such a soil, marvellous in the amount of its plant foods, and with the long, bright, even occasionally hot summer day, the metabolism of the plant cells is so rapid as only to be likened to the growth of plants under glass. To the plodding, laboring, waiting husbandman of England or Scotland it seems so unreal as to be incredible that four, or at the most, five, short months should yield for an area of 1,500,000 acres some 30,000,000 bushels of wheat, and as much more of other grains, to feed the toiling millions of continental cities."

Men travel with teams everywhere, taking grain to market, hauling fuel, building and fencing material, etc. Stock will live out of doors, so far as the cold is concerned, but at times require to be fed with hay. They should, however, be housed at night. Everyone unites in testifying to the healthfulness of the country as it affects stock. Ploughing is general in the early part of April, though much of the land is usually ploughed in the preceding autumn. The snow disappears rapidly and the ground dries quickly. Winter closes promptly and decisively. Sowing is done during almost the whole of April, and is finished early in May.

Dr. James Patterson, chief health officer of Manitoba, reports:—"That the climate is a good one for the development of man is shown by the fact, that those who have come here during the last 20 years have not deteriorated, but stand to-day the equal of any other people in mental or physical vigor, independent thought and action. That the climate is a good one for the propagation of our race is shown by our school population, which is larger in proportion to our whole population than most others. That our climate is not the severe one that it is believed by many to be, is shown by the average attendance at school of all children of school age, being about equal in winter and summer, except in sparsely settled rural districts. We enjoy special immunity from cyclones and blizzards, and whoever saw a dust or sand storm in Manitoba? The number of absolutely clear, sunny days in this country is not exceeded in any other good agricultural country habitable by white men. We have an average of 200 clear days out of 365. In Great Britain, on an average, 6-10ths of the sky is obscured by clouds every day in the year. With regard to disease, we have none whatever peculiar to this country or climate. We are absolutely protected by our climatic conditions from several of the most dangerous and fatal, whilst several of those which are common to all peoples on the face of the earth are comparatively rare, owing to our climate. For example, we have never had and never will have cholera, yellow fever, malaria or dysentery, so common and fatal to the inhabitants of warm climates. Inflammatory rheumatism is extremely rare as compared with its prevalence in cool, damp climates. Asthma rarely develops here, whilst many who suffer from it in the east are free from it in Manitoba. Consumption, which is the scourge of the British Islands and the United States, is as yet comparatively rare with us. Our pure, dry air, our sunny days, and opportunities for outdoor life are antagonistic to its existence."



C. H. RODBERG'S CATTLE AT PIPESTONE CREEK, MANITOBA.

MANITOBA.

Manitoba is situated in the very centre of the North American continent, being midway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The southern frontier of the province, bordering on the United States, is about the same latitude as Paris and the south of Germany, and the province itself is further south than the British Isles, Holland and Belgium.

Manitoba has an area about the same as is contained in England, Scotland and Ireland put together. Its width is about 300 miles, and extends northerly from the 49th parallel, comprising within its limits the famed grain-growing valleys of the Assiniboine and Red rivers. Although called the Prairie Province of Canada, Manitoba has large areas of forests, numerous rivers, and vast water expansions. Its forests in the east, along the rivers and fringing its great lakes, and on its mountain elevations furnish the settlers with fuel. Its principal rivers—the Red, Pembina and Assiniboine—give a great natural drainage system to all parts of the province, and smaller streams form a perfect network throughout the country. Its larger lakes—Winnipeg, Manitoba and Winnipegosis—abound with fish, which are caught in immense quantities by organized companies for export to the principal cities of the United States and to supply the local demand. Aside from the utility of these natural advantages put to a practical use, all combined, forests, rivers and lakes, have a mighty influence on the climate of Manitoba in increasing the rainfall and supplying an abundance of moisture. The population of Manitoba has steadily and rapidly increased during the past ten years and now numbers over 200,000 people, the greater proportion of whom are engaged in agricultural pursuits. The majority of the settlers are from Great Britain and Eastern Canada. Of the remainder there are, besides many from the United States, large colonies of Mennonites, Icelanders, Scandinavians and Germans, many of whom had but small means on arrival in the province, and at present they have comfortable homes and are amongst the most prosperous settlements in Manitoba. An evidence of the growth and prosperity of the province is given in the value of her farm buildings erected during 1898, which amounted to \$1,469,750.

Richest Soil in the World.

The soil is a rich, deep, argillaceous mould, or loam, resting on a deep and very tenacious clay sub-soil. It is specially adapted to wheat growing, giving a bountiful yield of the finest quality, known the world over as Manitoba No. 1, Hard Wheat, and in 1898 over 25,000,000 bushels, with coarser grains amounting to over 22,000,000 bushels, were produced in the province by 30,000 farmers.

Mr. J. J. Hill, of St. Paul, Minn., President of the Great Northern Rail-

way, is authority for the statement that "the Red River Valley is the richest farming country tha. I have ever seen. It is not only rich, but it has also bright prospects."

J. F. Hogan, the well-known Irish-Australian member of the Imperial Parliament for Mid-Tipperary, says: "Manitoba is a most progressive province. It receives emigrants from all quarters of the world, and is therefore a most cosmopolitan community. It has an immense and very fertile territory, which is now being filled up by good emigrants. I was very pleased with the various settlements I visited in Manitoba, and I venture to prophesy that it will shortly be one of the most prosperous and populous sections of the British Empire."

Social Advantages.

Manitoba now enjoys in full the advantages of advanced civilization. It has 1,736 miles of railway within its boundaries, which have been built since 1878. The main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway runs through the province east and west, and it has branch lines running in all directions. The Manitoba & Northwestern, the Dauphin, the Northwest Central and Southeastern Railways also operate in Manitoba. Telegraph lines branch out from Winnipeg to all parts of the province. Wherever settlers are, may be found villages, schools, churches and postal facilities. There is a uniform system of non-sectarian schools which are supported partly by liberal grants from the Provincial Government and partly by a tax imposed on land for this purpose. Every child of school age is entitled to free tuition, under teachers who must pass a thorough examination and have special training for the work. A thorough practical education is assured in the common schools which on January 1, 1898, numbered 1,068, there being 1,018 organized school districts. There are also 28 intermediate schools at central points, three Collegiate schools, and a University with which several denominational colleges are affiliated. The school population has increased from 7,000 in 1881 to 52,000 in 1898. Over 1,200 teachers are employed. All the religious bodies found in Canada are represented in Manitoba. There is no state church in Canada, every religion being alike in the eyes of the law. Churches of the leading denominations are established in the towns and villages, and even in the newer and scattered settlements arrangements have been made for holding union services of the different denominations. There are lodges of the different fraternal orders—Masons, Oddfellows, Foresters, Temperance, etc., etc.—throughout the country, and numerous Y.M.C.A.'s, Women's Aid societies and sewing circles. The farmers have organized a number of societies which are of incalculable value to the agricultural interests of the province. There are over 50 agricultural societies, which hold annual fairs, 25 Farmers' Institutes for the discussion of practical questions, a Dairy Association, Cattle and Swine Breeders' Association and a Poultry Association. Municipalities have been organized in the settled portions—there being 75, besides the incorporated cities, towns, etc.

Mixed Farming.

For years the nutritious grasses of the prairies and thousands of tons of hay in the low lands were allowed to go to waste for want of cattle to graze and feed upon them. Settlers are now availing themselves of this natural wealth, and are giving more attention to stock-raising and dairying instead of confining their efforts to wheat growing as formerly. In 1898 the number of horses in the province were 101,836 ; cattle, 227,000 ; sheep, 32,000 ; pigs, 69,648.

Crops of 1898.

The crop area and total yield of grain of Manitoba for 1898 was as follows, according to the official returns :

	Under Crop.	Total Yield.
Wheat.....	1,488,232 acres.	25,313,745 bushels.
Oats.....	514,824 acres.	17,308,252 bushels.
Barley.....	155,058 acres.	4,277,927 bushels.
Flax.....	14,561 acres.	350,000 bushels.
Other grain.....	7,028 acres.	95,740 bushels.
Potatoes.....	19,791 acres.	3,250,000 bushels.
Roots.....	8,448 acres.	2,470,000 bushels.
Total crop	2,210,942 acres.	T'tl. grain 47,345,664 bushels.

A comparison of these returns with those of previous years will show that Manitoba is making rapid progress along agricultural lines. For instance, the total crop area of 1898 shows an increase over the area of 1897 of 252,917 acres. The area in wheat has increased 197,350 acres, or over 15 per cent. The increase in other crops has ranged from 6 to 20 per cent.

Dairying.

Eleven years ago no dairying was done in the province except by a few farmers who made a limited quantity of dairy butter for their own use and not enough to supply even that demand. About the year 1888 the first creamery was established in Manitoba. Up to four years ago there were but five creameries in the province, and about 19 small cheese factories. In the early part of 1895 the Manitoba Government undertook to advance the dairy industry of the province, and with very successful results. The government granted aid to the farmers to establish creameries and cheese factories throughout the province, where joint stock companies were formed and incorporated. The result of this aid was that in 1895 14 new creameries were established, making 19 in all in the province. In 1896 five additional creameries were established, and in 1897 five more were added to the list, making a total of 29. There were 49 cheese factories in operation in 1897, some of them having been changed into creameries. Last year (1898) there were 32 creameries in operation.

It 1896 the government established a dairy school in the city of Winnipeg which has proved a great success and a great benefit to the province generally. There has been a large attendance of students at every session. The majority of butter and cheese makers that are managing factories in Manitoba at the present time are those who have taken a course in the school. The Manitoba Government Dairy School is a free gift to all residents of the Province of Manitoba. The school is fully equipped with all modern machinery for giving instructions in both home, dairy and creamery butter making and factory cheese making.

The estimated value of the dairy produce manufactured in 1894, both in the factories and on the farms, was \$34,000 worth. In 1895 the actual export, taken from factory statements, was \$198,000 worth; while in 1896 another grand advance was experienced, the value of the export being \$247,000 worth. The year 1897 was the largest one on record; the output of creamery butter was 987,179 lbs., dairy butter, 1,410,285 lbs., a total of 2,397,464 lbs., valued at \$366,317.84; cheese (factory) 987,007 lbs.,

valued at \$83,895.59, a total value of \$450,213.43. The figures for 1898 are: creamery butter, 965,025 lbs., valued at \$179,494; dairy butter, 1,151,620 lbs., valued at \$160,593; cheese, 800,000 lbs., valued at \$69,367.

Manitoba is pre-eminently a dairy country, being exceedingly healthy for cattle and stock of all kinds. The facilities for dairying in Manitoba are unexcelled by any province in the Dominion of Canada. In nearly every district the water supply both for stock and use in the manufacture of cheese and butter, is bountiful. In many districts there is a pure running stream of water, which is a very important factor in carrying on mixed farming. The pasturage is very rich and nutritious, nature providing an abundant supply of variously flavored grasses, so that the dairymen need never fear a shortage. One great faculty is that the soil of Manitoba does not have to be tilled in order to get pasturage or hay for winter fodder. Fodder corn for ensilage can be and has been grown to good advantage. Early maturing corn will grow abundantly and mature sufficiently any season for winter feeding purposes. Excellent corn crops were growing last year which would produce twenty tons of good feeding material per acre. It requires very little labor to produce proper corn, and one great advantage is, the soil is being tilled when the corn crop is being cultivated, thus preparing the soil for wheat and other grain crops for the ensuing year. The climate is perfectly healthy. Manitoba being the natural home of the buffalo, it naturally follows that the dairy cattle cannot fail to thrive well and be maintained in a perfectly healthy condition. The cool nights that invariably follow the hot summer days in this province, is a great advantage to the dairy industry. The milk can be kept sweet over night with little trouble; the cheese holds its flavor on the shelves for a good length of time. In short the climate is all that could be desired; it is favorable for dairying and where proper care is taken with the dairy cattle, there is sure to be a good paying profit to the dairy farmers of the province.

Cost of an Acre of Wheat.

A careful estimate made by the superintendent of the Government Experimental Farm, at Brandon, of the cost of growing an acre of wheat is \$7.87 (£1 12s. 4d.). This was the result of an actual experiment on a yield of twenty-nine bushels. The items of cost are: Ploughing once, \$1.25 (about 5s.); harrowing twice, 20 cents (10d.); cultivating twice, 40 cents (1s. 8d.); seed (1½ bushels), 75 cents (about 3s.); drilling, 22 cents, (11d.); binding, 33 cents, (about 1s. 4d.); cord, 10 cents, (5d.); stooking, 16 cents, (8d.); stacking, 60 cents, (about 2s. 6d.); threshing, \$1.46 (6s.); teaming to market, 4 miles, 29 cents (about 1s. 2½d.); two years' rent or interest on land valued at \$15 per acre at 6 per cent., \$1.80 (about 7s. 5d.); wear and tear of implements, 20 cents (10d.)—a total of \$7.77 or say (£1 12s.).

Lands for Settlement.

Many people imagine that Manitoba is already "filled up," but this is not so. In the Red River Valley of Manitoba, are in round numbers 2,800,000 acres, of which up to the present time only 550,000 have ever been cultivated. Again, south of the main line of the C.P.R. to the boundary of North Dakota, west of the Red River Valley are 4,600,000 acres, of which only 800,000 acres have been cultivated. To the north of the main line of the C.P.R., within reach of railroads are another 4,600,000 acres with only 500,000 acres cultivated. Here are millions of acres of the best land in the Northwest for sale on easy terms at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$5.00 per acre.

Homesteads.

Homesteads can still be obtained on the outskirts of present settlements to the east of the Red River, and between Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba, as well as on the west of Lake Manitoba, and in the newly opened Lake Dauphin District, through which railway communication with the great transcontinental system is now completely established. These districts are specially adapted for mixed farming, having abundance of hay and water, and with timber near at hand for building purposes. The province still affords a vast field for experienced farmers who can bring money with them to make the first improvements on land, to provide themselves with stock and implements and to carry their families through the first year. Manitoba has room for thousands, with a sure road for them to comfort and prosperity. The early settlers of Manitoba were all of this class, bringing in carloads of stock and plenty of money to keep them a year. The cost of transportation to-day is not one-half of what it was in the early 80's, when everything had to come by way of the United States. Lumber for building can be placed on homesteads for not more than half the cost in the early days, while machinery, feed, grain, groceries, dry goods, etc., can to-day be purchased at reasonable figures. In short, a settler with \$1,000 can place himself as well as did the settler with \$2,000, ten or twelve years ago, and in all parts of Manitoba products can be disposed of within a few miles of any settler, at the nearest railway station.

Rented Farms.

Opportunities frequently occur in the older settled parts of the province to rent a farm for one year or longer. This enables the newcomer to make a start, and gives him time to select land of his own. The rental depends largely upon the kind and value of the improvements. The method commonly adopted is to lease the farm on shares, the owner usually furnishing certain implements, stock, etc., which of course remain in his ownership. Rented farms are generally secured during the winter or early spring. Some of the most successful farmers of Manitoba commenced life in the west by leasing a farm until they were able to secure one for themselves either by homesteading or purchase,

Cheap Fuel.

Besides the large tracts of forest, both in and adjacent to Manitoba, there are vast coal areas within and contiguous to the province of such extent as to be practically inexhaustible. It has been discovered that between Red River and the Rocky Mountains there are some 65,000 square miles of coal-bearing strata.

The Manitoba Legislature has effected an arrangement by which this coal is to be supplied at a rate not to exceed \$2.50 to \$5 per ton, according to locality. With the extraordinary transportation facilities possessed here, controlled and regulated as far as possible by the Legislature, and with enormous deposits of excellent coal, easily and inexpensively available, Manitoba enjoys most exceptional advantages, assuring an ample and cheap supply to all her inhabitants.

Liberal Exemption Laws.

Manitoba has a liberal exemption law; that is, the law protects from seizure for debt, where no mortgage exists, a certain number of horses,

cattle, swine and poultry, some household effects and a year's provisions, so that if a settler who has not mortgaged his property is overtaken by misfortune, through illness or other cause, he cannot be turned out of his house and home, but obtains time to pay his indebtedness and retains the means of living while he recovers himself. If he desires to borrow money, as he may sometimes do with advantage to himself, he can secure loans on his farm property from loan societies on easy terms of repayment.

Harvest Hands.

So bountiful are the harvests that every year it is necessary to bring in from Eastern Canada from 3,000 to 5,000 farm laborers to work in the wheat fields. These earn good wages, and many remain and become actual settlers themselves. Cheap rates are offered, and special trains run for their accommodation. Those who go are given certificates and when they have them properly filled out to the effect that the holder has done one month's farm work he is returned to his destination at a low fare. Agents meet each train en route, with maps of the province on which is marked the number of laborers required in each locality. By this means laborers are easily directed to where they can obtain work without any delay, and all confusion and congestion in large centres are avoided. The special farm laborers' excursions run about the middle of August, when harvesting operations are commencing.

Cities and Towns in Manitoba.

Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, and the largest city in Canada west of Lake Superior, is about midway between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It is sixty miles north of the international boundary line between Canada and the United States, and forty miles south of Lake Winnipeg, a large body of fresh water teeming with fish, and with shores that are in many places, heavily timbered. The city stands at the confluence of the Red and the Assiniboine Rivers, and almost on the eastern verge of the great prairies and plains that stretch to the Rocky Mountains. To the east is the rich gold-bearing region of New Ontario which embraces the country from Lake of the Woods to Lake Superior, and is largely tributary to Manitoba. Winnipeg is a great railway centre. Ten main or branch lines radiate in all directions, and two other lines find entrance over the rails of the Canadian Pacific Ry. Co. The growth of Winnipeg has been phenomenal. In 1870 its population was 215; in 1876, 3,240; in 1881, 7,977; in 1886, 20,827; in 1891, 26,500; in 1896, 40,000, and in 1898 it claims a population of about 45,000, with an assessed value of about \$30,000,000. Winnipeg is naturally a centre for the wholesale and jobbing trade of the Northwest, and the merchants carry immense stocks required to supply the varied wants of the farming, ranching, mining, fishing, and lumbering, as well as the other industries which flourish throughout the country. Every branch of business is represented; all the principal chartered banks of Canada have branches here, and there are a large number of manufacturing establishments, including furniture factories, flour and oatmeal mills, breweries, meat curing and packing factories, foundries, boiler and machine shops, cigar factories, coffee and spice mills, grain bag factory, soap works, tanneries, planing and sawmills, harness and saddlery factories, biscuit and confectionary factories, tile and brickyards, carriage works, marble works, oil mills, book-binderies, tent and mattress factories, etc., etc. The pork packing establishment has a daily capacity of 500 hogs. There are extensive stockyards, and an immense abattoir, arranged for slaughtering and chilling the meat for direct shipment

to Europe, has recently been erected. There is ample cold storage in the city for dairy produce, etc.

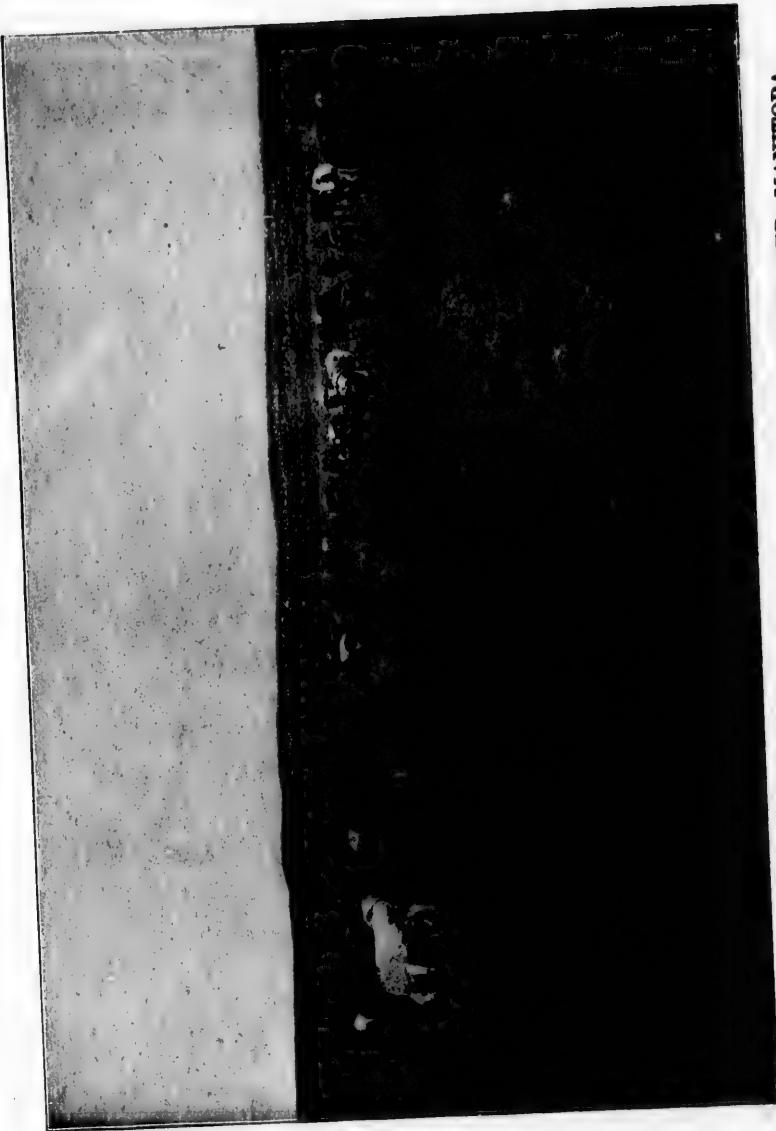
Winnipeg is the political as well as the commercial centre of Western Canada. The Legislative and the Departmental buildings of the Manitoba Government, and the chief immigration lands and timber offices of the Dominion Government for the west are located here. The Canadian Pacific Railway Co. has its chief offices in the west in Winnipeg, and in the station buildings are the head offices of its land department, where full information regarding the company's land can be obtained. The school system in this city is unsurpassed anywhere, besides the elementary schools, there being a Collegiate Institute, Normal School, four Colleges, and Provincial University, with several Business Colleges, Deaf and Dumb Institute, etc. Winnipeg has hospitals for the care of the sick and wounded, and no other city of its size has a greater number of churches. All the national and fraternal lodges are strongly organized here. Winnipeg is a well built city, with a number of very fine public buildings and handsome residences, and possesses several very handsome public parks.

On the east side of Red River is St. Boniface, where is located the Roman Catholic Cathedral and college, the Archbishop's palace, hospital, etc.

The most important towns in the province outside of Winnipeg, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Ry., are Portage la Prairie, 56 miles west, with a population of 4,500 and Brandon, 133 miles west with a population of 5,800. These are progressive centres for a considerable area of fine farming country, each being a railroad junction point, and being well supplied with stores, manufactories, elevators, etc. Morris, Rosenfeldt, Plum Coulee, Winkler, Morden, Manitou, Pilot Mound, Crystal City, Clearwater, Cartwright, Holmfield, Killarney, Ninga, Boissevain, Deloraine, Napinka, Carman, Treherne, Holland, Cypress River, Glenboro, Methven, Souris, Hartney, Melita, Pierson, Elva, Wawanesa, Belmont, Baldur, Miami, Rosebank, Holland, Myrtle, Dominion City, Emerson, Gretna, and others are market towns for the business of Southern Manitoba; and McGregor, Sidney, Austin, Carberry, Douglas, Griswold, Oak Lake, Virden and Elkhorn are large wheat markets in the centre and west on the main line of the C.P.R., and Whitemouth is a village also on the main line east of Winnipeg. In the northwestern part of the province are the towns of Westbourne, Gladstone, Arden, Neepawa, Minnedosa, Rapid City, Hamiota, Newdale, Strathclair, Shoal Lake, Birtle, Binscarth, Russell, etc.; Winnipegooses, Dauphin, Ochre River and Plumas in the newly opened Lake Dauphin district, now connected by railway with Winnipeg, and north of Winnipeg are Selkirk, Stonewall, Foxton and the Icelandic village of Gimli on Lake Winnipeg.

Settlers' Testimony.

The following are a few of the many letters which have been received from successful settlers, some of whom commenced in Manitoba with little or no capital. Several, it will be seen, are from farmer's wives who are contented in their new western homes, satisfied with their surroundings, and are entirely without the desire of seeking other countries or returning to the home of their childhood. Comfortable homes are to be found throughout the whole country, with pianos and organs in many places, and flowers blooming within or without the always hospitably opened door :



HERD OF CATTLE OWNED BY JOSEPH LAWRENCE, CLEARWATER, MANITOBA.

Crystal City, Nov. 2, 1898.

The opportunities offering in Manitoba to energetic and industrious young men are practically unlimited. In my experience in the province, covering a period of over twenty years, I have seen many settlers who came here with little or no capital reach a position of financial independence, owning comfortable houses and well-stocked farms. With properly directed energy there is no reason why others should not succeed as well as they have.

The fertility of the soil is evidenced in the bountiful harvests of the finest wheat the world produces, which are regularly garnered. There are yet limited areas of free land to be obtained within the province, or the newcomer will have no difficulty in obtaining either improved or unimproved farms at reasonable figures upon easy terms of payment.

Great progress has been made in recent years in stock raising and dairying, until now Manitoba has an enviable reputation in that respect. For these and all other products of the farm a ready market is obtainable.

The dry, bracing atmosphere with which this part of the temperate zone is blessed ranks with those which are claimed to be the most healthy in the world.

Manitoba enjoys the advantage of a thorough municipal organization, has numerous societies which have for their object the mutual advancement of the settler's interests, has an unexcelled free school system, is completely gridironed with railways which bring nearly every section within short distance of market, possesses an unfailing supply of fuel and water, and besides has all the adjuncts of civilization which are enjoyed by the farming communities of older countries. No one need fail in the Prairie Province.

THOS. GREENWAY.

Glenboro, Aug., 1898.

I came to this country from Scotland in 1879 with limited means; have now a section of land here and am doing well. I think it a fine country for any man who wishes to make a home for himself. There is a good demand for farm laborers. We want good, sober, industrious workmen. Female house servants are also in great demand and would do well here. I like the country and climate and have no idea of changing, but am quite satisfied to remain here. I would not return to Scotland to live there again.

JAS. DUNCAN.

Birtle, Nov. 12, 1898.

I am a native of Lincolnshire, England, coming from near Boston in that county, I came to this municipality in 1887, having left England with my family on 26th April that year. When I reached Birtle I had \$1.75 left and no farm nor outfit. I commenced by renting a farm and myself and boys working it; we have worked hard and steadily and to-day I own 480 acres with a small balance due upon it, and have 320 acres rented. I own 7 horses and 28 head of cattle, hogs, chickens, etc., 2 binders, several plows, harrows, etc., being a most complete outfit of farming implements. I have just finished threshing, turning out 1,700 bushels of wheat, and 4,600 bushels of oats which is now all in my granary. I am perfectly satisfied with my position and only regret that I did not come to the country earlier.

I gave considerable thought to the subject of which colony to settle in as I had a number of boys growing up and I decided on Canada, and on Manitoba as the part ; and am satisfied that I made the best selection possible. The country is a healthy one to live in, a settler can locate himself convenient to railways, mills, churches, schools, creameries, etc., and land can, in most places, be homesteaded, and failing that, can be purchased at reasonable figures. Honest, steady work here will in a few years give a man a good home.

W. E COOLEY.

Treherne, August, 1898.

We came to this country in the spring of 1888, myself, husband and three little children. We came here without seeing the country and like it well. In fact, I think for farming it is ahead of Ontario or any other country. I have not been sick a day since I came here and have done all my own work except the last three years when my husband has been farming so extensively. This year we have 660 acres into crop and will have a larger crop next year, and I only have a girl for the summer months. I was visiting in Ontario in fall and winter of 1895, and was glad to get back to Manitoba again. It seems more like home. We can carry on dairying here successfully and also raise poultry, and we always have a good garden, such as black currants, white currants, red currants, all kinds of raspberries and all kinds of gooseberries, and rhubarb and vegetables such as we used to grow in Ontario, only larger and better, and we relish them better. We have also plenty of wild fruit here in abundance. The winters are all right. My children walk to school two miles all through winter and scarcely miss a day. The air is dry and the snow is dry. Before I came to this country I thought it would be a big undertaking, but did not find it so, and am glad I came, as our children will have a good start here which they could not get in Ontario. I like the country well and am glad I came. Anyone coming here, even if they are poor, and are willing to work will soon get along and soon be independent. I would advise anyone wishing to improve their circumstances to come right along to Manitoba. When we came to Manitoba we brought three horses and two cows. Now we have seventeen horses and twenty-three head of cattle and all implements required in working a large farm. The first crop we raised in Manitoba in 1888 was a few bushels of barley ; last year (1897), my husband raised over twelve thousand bushels of wheat which he sold for 80 and 82 cents per bushel, besides other coarse grains. Any one can come and do likewise. We are doing well and I am happy and contented.

MRS. A. J. COTTON.

Miami, November 15, 1898.

I left Ontario in 1884, and went to North Dakota, in the hope of bettering myself. I lived there for eight years but made little progress, the principal difficulty being summer frosts. In 1891 I decided to make a change, and crossed over into Manitoba, where I settled on section 27, township 5, range 7 west, near Miami. The change was a good one for me and I am greatly pleased with the new conditions and surroundings. This is the country where a poor man can make a home. When I left North Dakota \$500 would have covered the value of all my possessions, while to-day I would not sell my farm outfit here for \$3,500. I have had six crops on my present farm, and the average yield has been 30 bushels to the acre, while some fields

have yielded as high as 45 bushels to the acre. The climate of this country is objected to by some people in the east, but I consider that it is far ahead of Ontario for health and for convenience in getting around. Manitoba suits me well.

ALF. FARROW.

Lauder, Sept., 1898.

I came to this country nine years ago last March and settled on the bare prairie. I left a comfortable home near the city of Ottawa and must say I have never regretted coming west. Things at first appeared very strange but I soon became reconciled to the plains, especially when I could stand in my own door and look upon acres of beautiful flowers. During 9 years I have spent here the hardships I have endured are light in comparison with what I have passed through while in Ontario. Picking and spinning wool are unknown here. Two good cows are quite sufficient to keep a family in milk and butter. Few women are called upon to milk, even the few cows any farmer may keep, while in the east every woman on the farm was expected to milk.

The cry is often heard, "no fruit in Manitoba." This may be very true in regard to growing of fruit, but as to having fruit it is shipped in in large quantities to every point in the province. Now an extra acre of wheat will purchase, generally speaking, enough fruit of all descriptions for any ordinary family. I have succeeded in having an excellent garden every year. There is no trouble in growing all kinds of vegetables with little labor and few pests to fight against.

As to climate it is all I desire. If any one has doubts let them try and prove for themselves its good qualities as thousands of others have done.

MRS. J. W. ALCOCK.

Deleau, Nov. 18, 1898.

I came to Manitoba in 1882 without capital and have now 800 acres, about half of which is under cultivation, most of the remainder being hay, wood and pasture; 180 acres are fenced. Buildings have cost more than \$4,000. Have about 70 head of cattle, 40 of which are thoroughbreds, 300 sheep and a dozen horses. Was a successful exhibitor of Hereford cattle at the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition last summer, taking first prize also in amateur photography both there and at Brandon. Came from England in October, 1879, without any knowledge of farming, brought my wife and our one child with me to Manitoba in spring of 1882.

J. E. MARPLES.

Morden, Nov. 18, 1898.

I left Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, about 18 years ago and came to Manitoba. I had \$500, and I made a small payment on a quarter-section in the Clegg District near Morden, bought a yoke of oxen and started in to build a home. The first year I exhausted the money I had, and the next two years it was a case of close living, but after that things commenced to go better, and in a while longer I found myself prospering. I have since bought another quarter-section adjoining my first one for \$2,000. I have 10 horses, 20 head of cattle, and a good outfit of implements. I value my land now at \$6,000, and consider my stock, implements, etc., worth \$1,200 more. This year

my crop as threshed was : 3,100 bushels of wheat, 900 bushels of oats, and 300 bushels of barley, besides which I cut on my own place 52 loads of hay. I never had a failure in crop, and think my average yield of wheat has been about 20 bushels to the acre. This year it was $22\frac{1}{2}$ bushels. I never did any farming till I came to this country. I think the winters here are a little severe, but I have never suffered and found no difficulty in making myself comfortable. I wouldn't think of returning east, and am well content to stay in Manitoba.

HAROLD ELLIOTT.

Delegates' Reports.

During the past year a number of delegates from the United States visited Manitoba. The following are taken from their reports after a tour of investigation through the province :

Brandon, April, 1898.

We, the undersigned, delegates from the States of Kansas, Nebraska and Michigan, having been chosen by a large number of people in our respective districts in the United States to visit Western Canada and report as to its fertility and adaptability for settlement, knowing as we do through our organizations or clues that large numbers will come to Canada through our report.

We were driven at Brandon to the Experimental Farm which presented a beautiful appearance, with its evergreen trees and nicely arranged drive, and seeding was in operation. We were shown the cattle and saw some eight steers in prime condition for the English market. They are good grades, we never saw better, in color, shape and style. They have been fattened on a small quantity of barley meal with cut straw, and we are persuaded that beef can be produced more cheaply in Western Canada than in the United States. The horses were in fine condition—native mares weighing 1,400 lbs., which clearly demonstrates the fact that horses can be raised at a good profit in Canada, as they sell at much higher prices than in the United States, and like all other stock, are cheaply wintered. All the straw we examined was free from must and mould, even if exposed to the weather, and makes excellent feed, being very bright in color.

We also saw some fine specimens of hogs—Chester Whites, Tamworth, Berkshire and Suffolk. Hog raising leaves a good profit to the farmer, as pork is a cent a pound higher here, live weight, than in our country. The poultry was very good—the hens had been laying all winter—eggs were bringing 15 cents per dozen ; in our country they are worth eight. We did not see one fowl with its comb frosted, and no fire has been used during the winter in the hen house. We saw a variety of grasses which yield $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 tons per acre. The exhibit room displays a wonderful range of production of grain in Western Canada. The wheat was clear like amber, and very hard; barley, very good, yielding as high as 60 bushels to the acre. This we consider a good substitute for our corn, and a great fat producer. Wheat being the staple production it is turned into cash, and the coarser grains used to finish cattle. We saw oats six feet long, which yielded 97 bushels to the acre on the entire field of 31 acres, and weighed 41 lbs. to the bushel. We saw extra good samples of peas. Samples of sweet corn in the cob were very choice, particularly the Squaw and Corey varieties. Our American corn yielded 45 tons to the acre, used for green fodder. Native hops hung in clusters, the production of Manitoba, that were equal to the best German hops.

The prices of all farm production are better than in the United States, and we must admit unanimously that the exhibit was superior to anything

we ever saw in any other country. All varieties of trees and shrubs are doing well, and anyone settling can grow timber for use quickly; firewood can be matured in six years. Ornamental shrubbery and hedges can be very successfully grown. We are more than pleased with the wonderful production of Canada.

We proceeded to Virden, a good town, permanent and progressive; six elevators, grist mill and has an excellent farming country around it, being fifty miles west of Brandon. The soil is a rich, black loam; buildings good; good water and good wheat weighing 62 lbs. to the bushel. We were very much pleased with this district.

We were driven south to Elm Valley and found a prosperous settlement. There is a great quantity of good land to purchase very cheap, but we think that any coming to settle in this district should have some means. We are well impressed with what we have seen.

CHARLES ROSS, McCook, NEBRASKA.

J. D. LANGLOIS, HUTCHINSON, KANSAS.

T. A. WELK, BUHLER, KANSAS,

A. D. WELK, BUHLER, KANSAS.

PETER BERG, DURHAM, KANSAS.

J. M. BARTEL, BUHLER, KANSAS.

N. M. MORGAN, BRIGHT, SOUTH DAKOTA.

PETER MORGAN, MELLETT, SOUTH DAKOTA.

MATHIAS STEFFES, REDFIELD, SOUTH DAKOTA.



SHEEP RANCH IN WESTERN CANADA.



MOSES CALVERLY'S OLD FARM HOUSE AT
HARTNEV, MANITOBA.



HIS PRESENT HOME.

ASSINIBOIA.

Lying between the Province of Manitoba and the District of Alberta, and south of the District of Saskatchewan, is the District of Assiniboa, which extends north from the International boundary to the 52nd parallel of latitude, and contains an area of thirty-four million acres. Travelling westward on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the district is entered at a point 212 miles west of Winnipeg. It is divided into two great areas—Eastern and Western Assiniboa—each of which has its own peculiar characteristics, the former being essentially a wheat growing and mixed farming country, and the western part of the latter especially adapted for ranching. In both divisions, minerals are found, and on the bars of the south branch of the Saskatchewan River in Western Assiniboa gold has been found in fairly large quantities.

Eastern Assiniboa.

There is nothing to mark any difference between Manitoba and Eastern Assiniboa, which is known as the Park country of the Canadian Northwest. The general aspect of the country is rolling prairie, dotted over with clumps of trees usually found bordering lakes, streams and meadows; in the hollows grow the heavy luxuriant grasses where the farmer obtains his supply of winter hay. The principal grains grown are wheat and oats. The ordinary yield of wheat is from 20 to 30 bushels to the acre. All kinds of roots, too, are a sure crop. The soil is so rich that no fertilizers are necessary, so that in this direction a large amount of time and money is saved. Nowhere can farming be done more easily, and nowhere can the frugal, earnest and industrious man start on a smaller capital. Coal in abundance is found in the South, in the district drained by the Souris River, and there is direct rail connection northwest with the main line of the C.P.R., and eastwardly to points in Manitoba.

This district, including the Province of Manitoba, is gradually becoming one of the greatest wheat producing sections of the American continent, for the following reasons : 1. It has a soil particularly rich in the food of the wheat plant. 2. A climate under which the plant comes to maturity with great rapidity. 3. On account of its northern latitude it receives more sunshine during the period of growth than the country to the south. 4. Absence of rust due to dryness of climate. 5. Absence of insect foes. 6. Absence of noxious weeds. These conditions are especially favorable to the growth of the hard flinty wheat of the Scotch Fyne variety, that is so highly prized by millers all the world over, giving it a value of from 10c. to 25c. a bushel over the softer varieties grown in Europe and the older parts of Canada.

For agricultural purposes the districts of Moosomin and Qu'Appelle are wonderfully favored, lying as they do in the great stretch of the fertile belt. The Moosomin District is included in the country between the Manitoba boundary on the east, on the north by the lovely valley of the Qu'Appelle River, on the south by the Pipestone Creek, a perfect paradise for cattle, and the 2nd meridian on the west. The Qu'Appelle District is that section which lies immediately west of the Moosomin to the height of land at McLean Station on the C.P.R., round to the Beaver Hills and south almost to the international boundary line. Included in this area are the Pleasant Plains, no less fertile than the famous Portage Plains of Manitoba, where

crops are phenomenally large. The subsoil is generally sandy clay, covered with about 12 to 18 inches of black vegetable mould, which after the second ploughing makes a fine seed bed, easy to work, and of the most productive nature. Generally speaking these remarks apply to all the eastern part of the district. The Beaver Hills and the Touchwood Hills in the northern part are especially well adapted for stock raising.

Eastern Assiniboia offers an opening to the poor man if he will work and exercise economy, for after a year or two of hard work he finds himself in possession of a home, all his own, free from the harassing conditions of a rented or mortgaged farm.

Western Assiniboia.

The eastern part of this section is similar to that of Eastern Assiniboia and is favorable for mixed farming. With Regina and Moose Jaw as their centres, are two large areas, 50 by 90 miles, admirably suited for grain, stock and dairying. From Swift Current Creek, the region is fully equal to the Bow River District in Alberta as a stock country. It is everywhere thickly covered with a good growth of nutritious grasses—the grass is usually the short, crisp variety, known as "Buffalo Grass," which becomes to all appearances dry about mid-summer, but is still green and growing at the roots and forms excellent pasture both in winter and summer. It is amazing the rapidity with which poor emaciated animals brought from the east get sleek and fat on the Buffalo grass of the plains. The supply of timber on the hills is considerable. There is also an abundance of fuel of a different kind in the coal seams that are exposed in many of the valleys. Settlers in this section of the Company's lands have thus an abundant supply of timber suitable for house logs and fencing, and both coal and wood for fuel. About Maple Creek irrigation works are being actively prosecuted with most beneficial results.

The Cypress Hills which may be dimly seen in the south from the railway, are especially adapted for stock raising, and as the country is too rough and broken to make general farming on an extensive scale a certainty, the grass land that nature has so bountifully provided will not likely be disturbed by the plow, thus giving to the farmer on the plains adjoining never-failing hay meadows and unlimited pasture ground for his stock. The snowfall is light, the climate is tempered by the Chinook winds, and water and shelter are everywhere abundant.

Great herds of range cattle roam at will all over these seemingly boundless pastures. The profits of the stockmen are large, as can be readily imagined, when it is shown that \$35 to \$45 per head is paid for three and four-year-old steers on these ranges, animals that cost their owners only the interest on the original investment incurred in stocking the ranch, and their share in the cost of the annual round-ups. Parties in search of land for stock-raising are advised to examine the country southwest of Swift Current Station, along the Swift Current Creek, south and west of Gull Lake, south of Maple Creek, the Valley of Mackay Creek that flows north from the hills and south of Irvine and Dunmore, where connection is again made with the Canadian Pacific Railway system.

Ranching.

An experienced ranchman furnishes the following, as an instance of how a man with a small stock of capital, and enterprise, energy and discretion, can make a first rate start and in time a comfortable home and competency for himself granted that he has £100 (or \$600) in his pocket when he arrives: "Let him first find a rancher who will give him annual employment at a

wage of about \$10 or \$15 per month with board and lodging. After a year's experience this wage will be increased by \$5 per month. Having found this let him take his \$500 and invest it in yearling steers at \$16 per head, brand them and turn them out on the range with his employer's cattle; this he will have but little difficulty in obtaining permission to do. In two years time these will have become three-year-old and will realize from \$34 to \$37 per head, thereby doubling the money invested in them. During the two years he has been working he has earned \$360, of which we will allow that for incidental expenses he has spent \$110. He has therefore, supposing him to have sold his steers at \$35 per head, which is considerably below the average price, \$1,410. With half this let him buy two-year-old steers at \$22 per head, and with the remainder yearlings, giving 22 of the former and 41 of the latter. Then let him work for one more year, and with the money earned build houses, sheds, stables, etc., so that by the end of the third year he will be in a position to start for himself, by which time he will have 22 three-year-olds which will realize \$770, plus 41 two-year-olds, which will be ready for the market the year following, and will realize \$1,455. So by judicious management he can have an ever-increasing bunch of cattle ready for the market. Remember that no man can do this without paying strict attention to business, or without looking well after the cattle. Many men fail solely because they neglect to take proper precautions and make proper preparations for a hard winter. In time a man can commence breeding, but my advice to beginners is 'buy nothing but steers.' Firstly, because they are marketable; secondly, because they are less likely to suffer from hardships of winter than cows.

"In the course of my travels I have seen several men start upon the principle I have outlined and meet with success beyond their most sanguine hopes. I may add that the ranches in this country are built almost entirely of logs which are cut and hauled direct from the bush, and first-rate buildings they make. Among the half-breeds are many first-class woodsmen who will cut, haul and build the logs at a very moderate figure. There are locations to be had where hay and water are plentiful, and the winters usually fairly mild. Land is given to a settler as in Manitoba, viz., 160 acres per man. In the foregoing article I have quoted selling prices below the average and buying prices above it; the difference would equalize any ordinary losses."

Dairying.

Both Eastern and Western Assiniboia are especially well adapted for dairying, and the industry has been making great strides during the past few years. Creameries have been established in different parts of the district, and are now in successful operation at Indian Head, Regina, Moose Jaw, Maple Creek, Moosomin, Qu'Appelle, Grenfell, Whitewood and Yorkton. They are yearly doing a largely increasing business, and are a profitable source of cash revenue to the settlers in their vicinity, British Columbia being an excellent market for the output. The natural inducements for the establishment of creameries are very great. There are nutritious grasses, and large ranges for stock, with a plentiful and pure water supply, and the climate is most favorable.

Towns of Assiniboia.

The principal town of Assiniboia is Regina, the capital of the Northwest Territories. This is a railway centre and an active business place. The Legislature meets at Regina, and it is the headquarters of the Mounted Police and other public offices. It has a population of over 2,000. A

branch line runs north through the Qu'Appelle District and on to Prince Albert, on the north branch of the Saskatchewan. Moosomin, Broadview, Grenfell, Wolseley, Sintaluta, Whitewood, Indian Head and Qu'Appelle are other towns in the eastern district, and Fort Qu'Appelle is beautifully situated in the valley of Qu'Appelle, 18 miles north of the railway—Yorkton and Saltcoats being the centre of settlements in the northeastern part of East Assiniboia, and Oxbow, Alameda, Carievale, Gainsboro, Carnduff and Estevan (at the Souris coal fields) in the southeastern part. Moose Jaw, with a population of 1,200, is another town 42 miles west of Regina, at the junction of the C.P.R. and the Soo line, running to St. Paul, Minneapolis and Sault Ste. Marie, where connection is again made with the Canadian Pacific Railway system. Lumsden, on the Prince Albert branch of the C.P.R., has four grain elevators. Maple Creek is a thriving place, and Medicine Hat, on the south branch of the Saskatchewan, is the chief town of Western Assiniboia. Dunmore is the junction of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway, which runs westerly past the extensive coal mines at Lethbridge to a point in the West Kootenay mining country through the Crow's Nest Pass and East Kootenay, opening up a vast country rich in minerals, which will furnish a good cash market for the products of the farms and ranches of Western Canada. The road to Lethbridge has been in operation for several years and the whole line is now completed to Kootenay Lake, where steamer connection is for the present made with the Canadian Pacific Railway system in Southern British Columbia. By the use of car ferries, freight for these mining regions reaches its destination without breaking bulk.

Settlers' Testimony.

Fort Qu'Appelle, September, 1898.

I came to this country in the spring of 1882 with less than \$200—not much money, but full of day's work. I took up homestead and preemption, in what is now called the Wide-Awake settlement. I consider the soil as first-class for wheat, a deep clay loam. Built a shack about as small as it was possible, but I had to make it do for a time, when I built a second house. By 1890 I had much more land under cultivation. I raised about 5,000 bushels, and in the last ten years never less than this. I also bought another quarter section of land. I have got all this land under cultivation and last year I built a brick house which has cost \$3,000. I also had a magnificent crop of 10,500 bushels; all my wheat No. 1, hard grade, which will average about 75 cents per bushel, cost of crop about 20 cents per bushel. I now own nearly 1,000 acres of land and am entirely free from debt, a fair estimate of property \$15,000, and I may say I will not take it if offered. I think this a fair showing that we have a good country for farming, and any man that is a farmer can't help but prosper; climate is simply grand all the year round.

THOMAS E. JACKSON.

Kalepera, September, 1898.

I am happy to say what I have done and am doing out here. I have been in the Northwest for 15 years, devoting myself solely to wheat growing, and have always been able to produce No. 1. Last season it was very good, weighing 63 pounds to the bushel, and I think anybody could produce

the same if they work the land as they should do. I find, however, that almost all who come here want more land than they can really work, and the result is, that they do not work it properly. There you have one of the greatest drawbacks in the country. As regards vegetables, they are in abundance; and of fruits, such as gooseberries, currants and raspberries, you can grow any quantity. I grow them all myself, and I have never had a failure, except in two years, and I should not have had a failure then if I had known what I know now. I, myself, am now farming 400 acres, and last year I sowed 200 acres and threshed 8,000 bushels. Our stubble land was poor last year, which is not usually the case, and that cut my average down quite a lot. Last year I bought a threshing machine for my son, and he threshed 93,000 bushels, and that was only in my own district. My biggest yield of wheat since I came here has been 58 bushels to the acre. Need I say after this that, in my judgment, anybody wishing to come to this country, having some capital and being willing to work, will be all right?

CHARLES BONNYCASTLE.

Indian Head, September, 1898.

I came to this country in 1883 from Collingwood, Ontario. There was little or no settlement here. To-day you can see broad fields of grain in all directions. I have 700 acres of land, 610 of which are in wheat, and they will yield pretty nearly 30 bushels to the acre this year. I keep 30 horses, besides cattle, etc. Others have done equally as well as I have, and throughout this whole district there is any number of prosperous farmers, some of whom commenced with very little or no capital. There is no reason why any man who is willing and able to work cannot succeed in Assiniboia, and he need not work so very hard either. While no homesteads are procurable about here, there are lands for sale. Assiniboia is a good country for the industrious man who wants to make a home for himself.

W. H. STEVENS.

Percy, September, 1898.

I landed in this country in 1882, direct from Stirling, Scotland, with \$500 capital. I found it uphill work the first three or four years till I got a good start. Afterwards I found that I should not care to exchange places with the average Scottish farmer. I own 70 cattle and horses, 2,000 acres of land, and a first-class house and farm buildings, and don't require to go and call on the factor twice a year and pay rent. I would advise any young or even middle-aged people, who want to live a free and independent life, to come to the fertile plains of the Canadian Northwest. I pay my men \$200 a year, and it is hard to keep them longer than one year, as they all want to start farming on their own account. Any information wanted about the country I will gladly give.

W. H. BRYCE.

Indian Head, September, 1898.

Coming to this country from near Toronto in 1882, I have seen in this section of the country a marvellous development. Sixteen years ago there was no settlement whatever. To-day there is no more prosperous community in Canada, the land being settled by an excellent class of farmers who have made great strides. I myself generally have from 600 to 800 acres in wheat, and many others have similar areas under cultivation.

There is no better country than Assiniboia for the man who is energetic and industrious and knows something about farming. The climate is very healthy, there is good water, taxation is merely nominal, and we have a good market for our produce.

ELI WILLIAMSON.

Delegates' Reports.

Yorkton, August, 1898.

I paid a visit to the Yorkton District and was driven through a country admirably suited for mixed farming, where stock as fine as I have ever seen both in quality and weight, are to be found. I saw three-year-old steers which had never been in a stable, but fed on hay, averaging about 1,500 or 1,600 pounds, and in fine, fat condition. The farmers get on an average three cents a pound live weight for these animals and are well satisfied with the profits they earn in this district. The grain crop in this district has been very good this year, wheat averaging from 30 to 40 bushels to the acre, and oats from 60 to 80 bushels. The prices when I was at Yorkton were about 70 cents for wheat and 20 cents for oats, paid in cash. The yield of potatoes, turnips and onions was as fine as I have ever seen, and close to Yorkton there is fine pasture for cattle and abundance of good hay further out. Water is plentiful and got at a reasonable depth. Lumber is sold for \$12.50 to \$14 a thousand feet, shingles \$3.50, and timber both for fuel, fencing and building purposes can be readily obtained, so that this district possesses every advantage necessary for success in farming. I found the farmers contented and prosperous and heard no complaint from any of them, and can safely say that any man industrious and desirous of going into farming and stock raising can be recommended to settle in the Yorkton District.

Plenty of free homesteads can be got by going out from Yorkton about 25 miles, railroad and Hudson's Bay Company lands can be bought close to Yorkton for from \$2.50 to \$3 an acre, on easy terms of payment.

DAVID CROZIER,
KANSAS.

September 5, 1898.

We have visited the country north and west of Yorkton for over 60 miles and found a country that cannot be surpassed for mixed farming. There are many streams of fresh water and the soil is excellent in every particular. The cattle around Yorkton could not be in better condition. We saw two-year-old steers as good as some three-year-old raised in some places, and these and all others about Yorkton were fed on native hay in winter and herded in summer. In fact, after looking carefully over the land around that district and noting conditions of crops in that district and consulting with people, we find, as a whole, a most desirable place for settlement. The advantages here offered consist of plenty of wood in the Beaver Hills and surrounding country. Brick and lime are both manufactured and sold cheap in Yorkton. We asked many about the winters and they all say they don't mind them any more than we do in Iowa or Ontario. Anyone, no matter what their tastes, may be suited here. All that is wanted here is more settlers.

I am well pleased with what I have seen of the Yorkton country and am

satisfied that any man who starts into mixed farming and is careful, is bound to succeed, no matter if he does start on a small scale with little money. If I live I will make my future home in this district, and I have no hesitation in recommending my friends to come and settle in the Yorkton country.

GEO. THOMPSON,
BOYDEN, IOWA.

Winnipeg, July 27, 1898.

We came to Western Canada as delegates from Stillwater, Minnesota. We first visited the Experimental Farm at Brandon and found everything admirably managed and most interesting and valuable information can be got here by intending settlers. We then went on to Alameda, where we were driven over a very interesting stretch of country. We found the farmers prosperous and contented, and the crops look very fine, especially near the Moose Mountain. The stock are in splendid condition and we have never seen animals looking better. A party was buying cattle at Alameda when we were there and paid \$19 for yearlings and \$29 for two-year-olds. Many farmers in this district have grown rich and they recommend it to incoming settlers. We have selected and entered for a section of land 16.6.2. W.2. for ourselves and relatives. This is 16 miles from Alameda and not more than 10 miles from the extension of the Pipestone branch, which is now being built into the Moose Mountain. We can fully recommend this district to those looking for new homes.

ALEX. CAMERON, }
ARTHUR PHINNEY, } STILLWATER, MINNESOTA.



SEVEN ELEVATORS, INDIAN HEAD.

SASKATCHEWAN.

Saskatchewan lies immediately north of Assiniboina, and is the largest of the four provisional districts which were carved out of the territories by the Dominion Parliament in 1882. Its area is 106,700 square miles. It is nearly twice as large as England and Wales, and almost as large as England, Ireland and Scotland, and is capable of sustaining almost an equal population. In shape it is an oblong parallelogram, which extends from Nelson River, Lake Winnipeg and the western boundary of Manitoba on the east, to the 112th degree of west longitude on the west, and lies between, or rather, slightly overlaps, the 52nd and 55th parallels of north latitude. It is almost centrally divided by the main Saskatchewan River, which is altogether within the district, and by its principal branch, the North Saskatchewan, most of whose navigable length lies within its boundaries. It includes in the south a small proportion of the great plains, and in its general superficial features may be described as a mixed prairie and wooded region, abounding in water and natural hay, and well suited by climate and soil for the raising of wheat, horned cattle and sheep. Settlement is at present chiefly in the Prince Albert, Rosstherne, Duck Lake, Shell River, Batoche, Stony Creek, Carlton, Carrott River, Puckahn, Birch Hills, The Forks, St. Laurent, St. Louis de Langevin, Domremy and the Battleford Districts, in nearly all of which there is a great quantity of the best land open for selection free to homesteaders, i.e., settlers who take up land to cultivate and live upon it. In the Battleford District stockraising is gradually becoming the predominant industry. The entire country is peopled with Canadians, Germans, Scotch, English, Russians, and old country French. In every settlement there are churches and good schools. In great measure that which may be said of one district applies equally to the others. The crops consist of wheat, oats, barley and potatoes. Turnips and all kinds of vegetables are raised successfully. Normal yield of wheat (Red Fife), about 30 bushels to the acre in favorable seasons, one to $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels sown to the acre. Oats, about 60 bushels, from three sown to the acre. Barley is now being grown extensively, there being a demand for this cereal in the district and it has always given a good yield in favorable seasons. There has never been a total failure of crops, and settlers enjoy a steady home market at which they realize good prices for their products. The district is well supplied with good roads, and they are kept open winter and summer. Wild fruits of nearly every variety—strawberry, raspberry, gooseberry, blueberry, high bush cranberry, black currants, etc.—grow in profusion, and small game is plentiful.

Towns.

Prince Albert, with a population of 2,000, is the chief town of the territorial division. It is beautifully situated on the south bank of the North Saskatchewan, and is in the centre of an extensive farming district. A branch line runs between it and Regina; it is also the prospective terminus of the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway, running from Portage La Prairie, in Manitoba, and the Dauphin Road, running from the same place, is also being built towards it. The town was incorporated in 1886, is lighted by electricity, and is well supplied with stores, churches, schools, three sawmills, two large grist mills, with a capacity of 100 barrels per day each, two large breweries, newspapers, etc. An evaporated vegetable factory was

started in 1897, and affords a good market for garden stuff. It is a divisional centre of the Mounted Police.

Battleford (population 600), is another well situated town on the delta of the Battle River, west of Prince Albert, which has a sawmill, police post, Indian Industrial School, good hotels, etc.

Duck Lake, on the railway, forty miles from Prince Albert, is a thriving town, being the centre of a good agricultural district. It has a grain elevator and a grist mill.

Rossthern is a new town at which two elevators and roller mill have been erected.

Saskatoon is an older place on the line of railway.

Stock-Raising, Ranching, etc.

The country is remarkably well adapted for stock-raising, and large shipments are made annually in gradually increasing numbers. In fact the better it becomes known the more its fitness for that purpose becomes apparent. Immense tracts of hay land are not only to be found south of the Saskatchewan, capable of sustaining countless herds, but on the north side there are areas of rich pasturage. Fresh water is everywhere abundant, and the country being more or less wooded, protection is afforded to the cattle, which, however, must be fed, and should be sheltered three months to four months every winter. For bands of from 300 to 500 it is unsurpassed. Horses winter out well, and can, therefore, be kept in large bands. Sheep, of which there are large shipments made, require the same care as cattle, and are better in small flocks.

Dairy Farming, etc.

Any portion of this district will answer all the requirements for dairy farming. In and on the slopes of the Eagle Hills, or south of the Saskatchewan would be most suitable, owing to the luxuriance of the grass and prevalence of springs. North of the Saskatchewan there is abundance of grass in many places, particularly in the vicinity of Jackfish Lake and Turtle Mountain. In the former district an extensive creamery has been established which makes large shipments to British Columbia, and other creameries are erected at Prince Albert and Saskatoon, with skimming stations at from 15 to 20 points. An old resident of Saskatchewan, after several years experience, says: "Pure water is in abundance everywhere. Nights are cool. The home demand has always been very large, so that dairy products command good prices. The luxuriant feed which the virgin soil produces, together with the bracing climate gives vigorous health to domestic animals and renders them free from all diseases of a serious nature. We have a vast area of the best arable and pasture land awaiting to be utilized by the farmers, dairymen and stockmen. The wild grasses of this country make a first class quality of beef and butter, which is apparent to anyone who may come to the country and test them. We also have an abundance of pure water in our streams and natural springs. We have also an ample supply of the best building material which can be supplied cheap, and also a comparatively cool climate in summer, so that we have exceptional advantages for making the best butter. The dairy industry, properly managed, will bring a great deal of money into the country. With so many natural advantages all that we require is an earnest effort and skilful men to teach us and there is no reason why the products of Saskatchewan District could not compete with any country in the markets of the world."

Fisheries.

The fishing industry is largely carried on in Montreal and Candle Lakes, north of Prince Albert, and there are any number of smaller lakes and streams in which fish abound, principally white fish and pike, and sturgeon is plentiful in the Saskatchewan.

Settlers' Testimony.

Prince Albert, November, 1898.

I came from the County Derby, Ireland, and commenced farming seven miles from Prince Albert in 1887. Since that time I have built a comfortable dwelling house, stables and granary, and purchased all the implements needed on a 320-acre farm. I have plenty of stock, all paid for. The climate is healthy. I know from experience that there are a great many people in the Old Country that could make a much better and easier living here than they can there; especially young married couples who start farming in debt, and although they work late and early they never get clear of it. If they would start out here with one or two hundred pounds they could make a much better start in life than it is possible to do there, and their land and home would be their own—free from landlordism and, comparatively speaking, taxation. The only tax we have to pay here is the school tax. Every new settler can get 160 acres of land by paying ten dollars as an entrance fee, and at the end of three years if he has a house to live in and fifteen acres under crops, he receives his deed in fee simple.

There are also lots of improved farms that can be bought at from one to five dollars per acre.

During the eleven years I have been farming here I have never had a crop failure. My wheat crop has averaged twenty-two bushels to the acre, and oats and barley are invariably a fair crop. Potatoes, turnips and all kinds of vegetables grow to excess with the smallest amount of labor. Hay is not cultivated as there is enough on the prairie and swamps to supply all demands, and therefore costs nothing but the cutting and stacking.

THOS. McCLOY.

Saskatoon, October, 1898.

We have been located at Saskatoon since 1883, where every industrious man has done well. Just around Saskatoon the country is peculiarly adapted to mixed farming, while to the south and east there are extensive ranges suitable for cattle-raising, which has turned out such a good paying industry that some settlers not quite up to the mark as farmers have taken, with the cattle raised on the farms, to ranching as a sure and easy way of making a living. In addition to wheat of the best quality all ordinary crops are successfully raised, and garden produce is simply wonderful. Field roots do well too, for example, my potato crop, according to the season, runs from 200 to 500 bushels per acre. The excellent wild hay of the country has hitherto supplied the settlers with nearly all the fodder required for their live stock, and for some years to come will do so, but lately some have been very successfully raising Brome Grass for this purpose. In the early years of the settlement we imported, but now we export, both grain and cattle as well as

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dairy produce. As to climate, the winter seems to be the bugaboo to those who have not been through it, but we like the climate all the year round, and my wife not only enjoys but prefers the winter. There is plenty of land yet vacant just as good as that occupied, and new settlers will have many advantages such as the railway, markets, schools, churches, etc., which we pioneers did not have.

THOS. COPLAND.

Wisgard, June 26, 1898.

This is a good district for "mixed farming." Speaking generally the soil is rich and there is plenty of hay, wood and water. Nobody should come here unless he is prepared to go into mixed farming. It would be a mistake for anyone to think of living by the agricultural branch alone. At present we are too far from the market to make wheat farming alone and on a large scale advisable, but in combination with stock raising it is all right. Besides this district is naturally well suited for mixed farming as it is situated on the southern verge of the great forest country at its junction with the true prairie. This gives us an excellent variety of grasses and good water, and of course proximity to timber. There is plenty of open land and yet lots of shelter in the shape of numerous bluffs. The climate is much the same as Manitoba. I have been 14 years in Saskatchewan and consider the climate very healthy. At the present moment all grain crops look very well and promise a large yield. South of Duck Lake, at Rostheron and Hague there are large colonies of Mennonites. I know a number of them very well and am glad to say they seem all to be prosperous.

I think it right to say it would be desirable for settlers coming in here that they should not be without means to make a fair start in farming. The country is all right—I know none better—but there is little or no demand for farm labor. Each settler as a rule works his place with the help of his own family and hired help is not general.

WM. CRAIG.

Puckahn, October, 1898.

This locality offers good inducements for industrious and energetic men. We have good crops, good water, good climate, and no one who knows anything about farming can fail if he works. Twenty-five bushels to the acre is an ordinary yield of wheat here, and very frequently is much higher. I can confidently recommend intending settlers to see this section before deciding where they will locate.

B. BREWSTER.

Delegates' Reports.

Prince Albert, Aug. 1, 1898.

We the undersigned hereby have the honor of presenting the following statement on behalf of ourselves and of the people in the State of Kansas and Missouri whom we represent. Our delegation consists of Fred Hetrick, President, and R. M. Smith, Secretary Treasurer, both of Chanute in Neosho County, Kansas, who were selected at a public meeting of citizens of that county to represent them here; and of three other gentlemen from Missouri, viz., Nicholas Sanders, John O'Leary and A. B. Rood. To these were added informally Messrs. Legerton, who joined the delegation at Kansas City. As regards the people whom we represent, we can state positively that the

number of intending immigrants who await our return, and who will be influenced by our report amounts to hundreds, and we have no doubt whatever, that when these people are once settled in the region we have selected, and shall shortly return to report upon, their influence will induce many hundreds more to cast their lot in that part of the Prince Albert region known as the "Carrot River." We may say, too, that several of the delegates named, instead of returning to the United States, have decided to remain at Carrot River in order to take up land, and prepare for the incoming of their families and friends; and that these gentlemen have deputed to their colleagues full authority to speak and act for them upon their return to the States, and to complete the necessary arrangements for the transport of their families to their new homes in the Canadian West. In this connection we venture to say that no better evidence could be offered to the families of these persons of the value of the country referred to, nor could a better proof be given to the people who have sent us than that the prospect before them is all that could be desired.

We proceeded to Regina and thence went on at once by train to Prince Albert. This important town was reached upon Saturday July 23rd, and there and in its neighborhood we spent Sunday and a portion of the following day. Prince Albert proper is an old settlement where the lands are already largely located and farmed. It is one of the most noted regions in all the Northwest for wheat, vegetables and stock. We left Prince Albert and made our way over a succession of beautiful prairies and past numerous farms to the south branch of the Saskatchewan, which we crossed at Adams' ferry, camping there for the night. The following day we reached Mr. Thomas Anderson's farm on Carrot River, and stayed there all night, making a careful examination of his holding, crop, and stock. This man told us that he began there 18 years ago absolutely without means, and to-day he owns several thousand acres of land, a fine herd of cattle and a valuable flock of first-class graded sheep. His wheat field consisted apparently of about fifty acres, and we have certainly never beheld a more promising crop than that now growing thereon. The like may be said of his oats and barley, and as for his root crop last year, he said, his return in potatoes was 400 bushels to the acre, and the present crop promises to be equally fertile. * * *

As regards the winter climate of the Prince Albert region we can only speak of course from hearsay. Every resident, however, agreed in these main points, that though the mid-winter months are cold, the weather is clear and dry, the snow fall light and the whole region certainly free from the blizzard in winter and the cyclone in summer. In a word we are satisfied that the region in question, though colder in winter than our middle States, will compare favorably with either Kansas or Missouri in point of health.

In conclusion we beg to place upon record our distinct opinion, that in every respect the region we have described is thoroughly suited to the requirements of the genuine American farmer and stock-raiser, and will, in our opinion, very speedily witness an extraordinary development and teem with an industrious population.

FRED HETTRICK, KANSAS, U.S.A., President of the Deputation.

R. M. SMITH, KANSAS, U.S.A., Secretary of the Deputation.

NICHOLAS SANDERS, MISSOURI, U.S.A.

JOHN O'LEARY, MISSOURI, U.S.A.

A. B. ROOD, MISSOURI, U.S.A., per Nicholas Sanders, who also certifies on behalf of M. E. and A. D. Legerton.

Winnipeg, July, 1898.

Induced by Mr. Klaas Peters, who visited our homes in South Russia last winter and encouraged us to emigrate to Canada, we decided to make a trip to Canada in the interest of many families and friends, in order that we might learn to know the climate and country as far as possible.

We left home on April 22nd, and reached Winnipeg on May 17th. We left on the following day for the west, in order to see the lands for home-steading. Our first point was Saskatoon, where we found a new Mennonite settlement, and also others at Rosthern and Hague. We were treated very kindly on arrival, and were pleased to see that this district is very suitable for our farming people who are coming from South Russia. The nature of the ground is black soil, with heavy clay subsoil, and, therefore, very fertile. The grass grows very close, and the growth is wonderfully nutritious, which was to be seen by the fat cattle in the neighborhood. The newly planted wheat seemed in splendid condition, and promises a rich crop. It is a nice prairie, covered with beautiful grass, and dotted here and there with little poplar forests, which gives the whole a very romantic appearance. The settlers whom we visited look forward to a very happy and contented future, and thank God that He had laid the way open for them to erect their homes in this part of the earth. Altogether very much pleased with the good qualities of this land, and thoroughly convinced that there is room for many thousands who may yet come to make their living from farming and cattle raising, we returned on May 28th to Manitoba in order to see something of this place, and to learn a lot from our many friends about the condition of Canada. As far as we have been able to learn during our sojourn here, we are able to see that most of our Mennonite brethren have made tremendous progress since their immigration into this country. Many of them occupy farms similar to those occupied by the nobility of Europe, with the only difference that they have not nearly so many expenditures or taxes to pay, and they are very happy with their comfortable condition. This happy condition has been reached by our friends owing to their unsparring energy and the fertility of the ground, and the clever management of the Canadian Government; at least, such was the impression given to us by our brother farmers here.

We are very thankful to learn that the Mennonites in Canada are allowed to follow their beliefs without hindrance, and that according to the Order-in-Council, which cannot be changed, they are free from any and every military service. A copy of this law was handed to us by our friend, Mr. Klaas Peters, in the original English language, which we are taking with us to Russia with a literal translation, in order that we may lay it and its privileges before our brethren,

PETER KRAHN,

PETER BRAUN,

DELEGATES FROM SOUTHERN RUSSIA.

Calgary, August 8, 1898.

I have just made a careful investigation of the conditions at Prince Albert District. I found there a vast country open for the settler and giving, in my opinion, good promise of financial success. The large part of the country is at present best adapted for stock-raising, but a good part of that will no doubt in time become fruitful tillage land. I passed through several townships south and east of Prince Albert, well suited for the production of wheat and other small grain.

What is known as the Red Deer Hills is cultivated to great advantage. There is also excellent land for farming south of the South Saskatchewan, three to six miles south of McKenzies' Crossing. Long slopes of open prairie challenge the willing plowman. The country west and north of Birch Hills in Townships 44 and 45, Range 27, Townships 45 and 46 in Range 26 is a beautiful slope of open prairie country with a fine, rich soil well adapted for cultivation, with unlimited range for stock south and east. This is the western limit of what is known as the Carrot River country. From numerous and some reliable sources, I learned that a similar country extends eastward for 200 miles and more, and surrounded by an unlimited range of pasture and hay land.

The "Chakastapsin" Reservation, which is being surveyed for settlement, is near the river and at the north and west of what I have been describing; it is said to be good land, but what I saw was covered with bush and timber; however, it lies well.

I also saw fine land for cultivation between Saskatoon and Duck Lake. It is an open prairie and from appearance of what has been done by settlers, it will soon become very productive. This region is rapidly filling up.

I met several delegates from Kansas, at Prince Albert, who went farther east on the Carrot River than I travelled, and who praised the country without constraint. "The best they ever saw," etc. Several of them selected locations for themselves and friends in that region.

Ranching and mixed farming are what pay in this district of Prince Albert. There is an abundance of water and a great range for increase of stock, and more than sufficient of wild hay for present needs.

On the whole I believe this district is bound to be filled with prosperous farmers and stockmen who will produce what will make a large export of grain cattle, and further, there are evidences here on hand that men will not grow well off here without thoughtful industry any more than they will in any other country, but with honest toil and sensible management will meet with their suitable reward, a reward far greater than can be ordinarily found in the eastern farms, or in the cities east or west.

W. B. BRADSHAW.

DELEGATE FROM HUTCHISON, KANSAS.



OAT FIELD OF AUGUST FERDBERG, WETASKIWIN, ALB.



B. A. FRASER'S RANCH AT ELBOW, TWELVE MILES
FROM CALGARY.

ALBERTA.

Alberta is the most westerly of the several divisions of the Northwest Territories, and extends from the western limits of Assiniboinia to the eastern limits of British Columbia, within the range of the Rocky Mountains. It is divided into Northern Alberta and Southern Alberta. They are unlike in essential particulars and are, therefore, occupied by different classes of settlers. The Calgary & Edmonton Railway, operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, passes through the two divisions from Macleod in the south, where it connects with the Crow's Nest Pass Railroad running into the Kootenay gold mining country, to Edmonton in the north, affording market and shipping facilities at a number of convenient points along the whole distance.

Northern Alberta.

Within the borders of Northern Alberta is a practically illimitable area of the most fertile land, well timbered and well watered, and it has a clear, equable and healthful climate which makes it a pleasant country to live in. The surface of the country is gently undulating, and through the centre of the district the Saskatchewan River flows in a bed 200 feet below the level. Wood and prairie alternate irregularly. In some parts there are large plains free from timber and in others great areas of woods composed of large trees. The soil consists of a layer of from one to three feet of black vegetable mould, with little or no mixture of sand or gravel, bearing a growth of wild vegetation of a luxuriance seen in no other part of the Territories, and indeed seldom seen anywhere outside of the tropics. It is peculiar to this section of the country that the black mould is deeper on its knolls and ridges than in the hollows. With a soil of such depth and fertility, it is not wonderful that in ordinary good seasons a yield of oats of 100 to 114 weighed bushels to the acre has not been uncommon, and that less than 60 bushels is considered below the average, 80 to 85 bushels averaging 50 pounds to the bushel being an ordinary yield ; that barley will yield 60 bushels and wheat over 40, and potatoes of from two to three pounds weight are not a rarity. Of course, these yields have not been attained every year, nor in any year by every farmer, but they have been attained without extraordinary exertions, and prove that the capacity is in the soil if the tillage is given to bring it out. Live stock of all kinds is raised extensively, including horses of all grades, from heavy draught to Indian ponies, horned cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry. Native horses do well without stabling all the year round, but good stock of whatever kind requires good treatment to bring it to its best, when it is most profitable. There is a varied and nutritive pasture during a long season in summer ; there is an abundant supply of hay procurable for winter feeding, and an abundant and universally distributed water supply. There are very few summer or winter storms, and no severe ones. Blizzards and wind storms are unknown. The winter climate is less severe than that of the districts along the Saskatchewan further east on account of the Chinook winds. As a consequence, a better class of cattle can be raised more cheaply and with less danger of loss in this district than in some other parts. The advantages which tell so heavily in favor of the district for cattle raising tell as heavily in favor of dairying. Native fruits—wild strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, saskatoon and cranberries, cherries and black currants—grow in profusion almost everywhere, and tobacco is successfully cultivated. All

through the country small game, principally mallard and teal, prairie chicken and partridge, is very plentiful, and deer may not infrequently be found. Coal of excellent quality is found throughout the whole district from east of Medicine Hat to the Rocky Mountains, and from the international boundary to north of the Saskatchewan River, being exposed on the cut banks of the Saskatchewan, Sturgeon, White Mud and other streams in abundance, and is procurable at from 60 cents to 75 cents a load by the settler hauling it from the mine himself, and is delivered in the towns at from \$1.50 to \$2 per ton. Settlers can supply themselves by paying a fee ranging from 10c. to 20c. a ton in some localities. There is plenty of wood for building material, and fuel in almost every part of the district. Gold is found in the bars and benches of the Saskatchewan, Macleod, Athabasca, Smoky and other rivers in small but paying quantities. These are known as the "poor man's diggings," and some settlers after seeding when the water is low turn miners and make from \$1.50 to \$4 per day. Dredging operations have been carried on with varying success during the past few years, and with new specially designed machines now under construction, it is confidently anticipated that even a greater reward will attend the work.

So good is the reputation that this section of the country enjoys, that settlement was made at a number of points before the railway was complete, and in 1892, when the road was in full operation, a more regular stream of settlement began. There is, however, such ample room for choice of locations that thousands can find room for selection in the free sections. This, however, will not continue to be the case for many years. They can be obtained not distant from the railway line as far north as Leduc, but around Edmonton none are obtainable within an area of 20 or 25 miles. Partly improved farms can be purchased near Edmonton at from \$5 per acre upwards, and railway lands within ten miles for \$3 per acre. Bush lands are obtainable within five miles of the town.

Southern Alberta.

Southern Alberta, which forms the extreme southwestern corner of the prairie region of Western Canada, stands unrivalled among the stock countries of the world, and now that it has direct railway communication with the markets of Eastern Canada and of British Columbia, is the most desirable one for stockmen. The country is level, open prairie in the eastern portion, but it is much broken along the western side by the foot-hills of the Rockies. Cattle and horses graze out all the year round, instinctively finding shelter in the bottom lands whenever needed, and hay is easily and cheaply secured as provision for weak stock. With good management, the profits to stockmen are large, \$42 to \$45 per head being paid for four-year-old steers, and \$35 for three-year-old's last year on the ranges, the animals only costing their owners the interest on the original investment in stocking the ranch and their share of the annual round-up. Large bands of young stock are annually brought in from Eastern Canada and some of the Western American States to be fattened on the ranges, the profits being sufficiently large to amply recompense the re-shipment, after fattening, to European and other Eastern markets. Mixed farming is successfully carried on pretty generally throughout the district, and will largely increase as irrigation operations are extended. At various places the dairy industry is rapidly developing. Though a large portion of Southern Alberta is bare of timber for fuel, this lack is amply compensated for by an inexhaustible supply of coal of excellent quality, which crops out at many points along the steep banks of the streams that plentifully water

the country. There are also largely operated coal mines at Lethbridge and at Fernie, in British Columbia, which supply Southern Alberta with cheap fuel.

Chief Towns.

The principal towns of Alberta are Lethbridge, Macleod, Okotoks, High River, Cardston and Pincher Creek in the south, Calgary in the centre, Canmore, Anthracite and Banff in the west, and Olds, Innisfail, Red Deer, Lacombe, Wetaskiwin, Edmonton, South Edmonton, Fort Saskatchewan and St. Albert in the north.

Calgary is a bright and busy city of about 3,500 population. It is situated at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow Rivers, about 70 miles east of the Rocky Mountains. It is the centre of the northern ranching districts of Southern Alberta, and supplies many of the smaller mining towns to the west. It is built principally of white stone, and is the junction of the Calgary and Edmonton branches with the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is an important station of the Mounted Police, and in a variety of ways does a large and increasing business. It has water-works, electric light, first-class hotels, brewery, several churches and public and private schools, creamery, pork factory, cold storage and large stores.

Edmonton, on the north bank of the Saskatchewan, is the market town for the farmers, traders, miners, etc. on the north side of the Saskatchewan, and for the trade of the great Mackenzie Basin, and like Calgary, is an outfitting place for those taking the inland route to the Peace River, and other gold-bearing streams in the Rocky Mountains. It is a prosperous town with a population of nearly 2,500, is lighted by electricity and has all the modern adjuncts of thriving towns. Edmonton has three chartered banks, flour mill, planing factory, pork factory, two breweries, two brick-yards, five churches, public schools and every branch of business, both wholesale and retail, is represented. There are five coal mines near the town.

South Edmonton, on the south bank of the Saskatchewan (population 950), and the present terminus of the Calgary & Edmonton Railway, is another rising centre where good hotel accommodation, stores, creamery, flour and oatmeal mills, brewery, tannery, banks, four grain elevators, carriage, foundry and machine shops, and pump factory, etc., are established. It has several churches and a public school.

Fort Saskatchewan, 20 miles east of Edmonton, is the headquarters for the Mounted Police in that district, and the distributing point for the Beaver Hills and Vermillion region.

St. Albert, nine miles northeast of Edmonton, is the site of the Roman Catholic Mission, where there are three stores, two hotels, blacksmith shop, etc.

Leduc, 18 miles south of Edmonton, on Leduc Lake, is the centre of a well-settled farming district. It has stores, churches, etc.

Wetaskiwin is the busiest town between Edmonton and Calgary, and possesses some good stores, creamery, elevator, hotels, etc. It is the market for the Beaver Lake and Battle River settlements.

Lacombe is 20 miles north of Red Deer in the centre of a rich and well-settled farming country, and is the market town for the Buffalo Lake District. It has a flour mill, grain warehouse, creamery, etc.

Red Deer, on the river of the same name, half-way between Calgary and Edmonton, is in the centre of a fine stock country, there being several large ranches in the vicinity.

Innisfail is a prettily situated and very prosperous town, 76 miles north of Calgary, with several stores, hotels, creamery and a grist mill.

Olds is a rising town, 55 miles north of Calgary, around which there is a well-settled country.

Okotoks, between Calgary and Macleod, has several factories and stores, creamery, sawmill and planing mill.

High River is the centre of a large cattle range northeast, from which large shipments are made.

Macleod (population 1,200), on the Old Man River, at the southern terminus of the Calgary & Edmonton Railway, and an important station on the Crow's Nest Pass Railway line, is the chief centre of business and headquarters for the great ranching industry of Southern Alberta. The town is rapidly increasing in population.

Pincher Creek, in the foothills of the Rockies, is a thriving village in the centre of an excellent stock country.

Lethbridge (population 2,700), on the Crow's Nest line of the C.P.R. situated about thirty miles east of Macleod, is a coal mining town doing a good business, with large stores and several public buildings.

Cardston, on Lee's Creek, 15 miles from the boundary, is the centre of a well settled and prosperous district.

Cattle Raising.

There are countless herds of fat cattle on the ranges of Southern Alberta, which at any season are neither fed nor sheltered ; cattle, too, which in point of breeding, size and general condition are equal, if not superior to any range cattle in the world. Shorthorns, Herefords and Polled Angus (black and red of the latter), are the chief breeds. There are some Holsteins and Ayrshires, but they are not generally used except where dairying is the main desideratum. For the small stock breeds where dairying and beef producing must materially go hand in hand, probably a good milking strain of Shorthorns will be found the most profitable. To illustrate the class of cattle produced, it may be mentioned that a train load of four-year-old steers from the Cochrane ranch after being driven 140 miles and shipped by rail 2,300 miles to Montreal, weighed at the end of the trip on the average of 1,385 lbs. Four-year-olds and long threes have, during the past four years, netted the owners from \$40 to \$45 on the range ; three-year-old and good cows, \$32 to \$37 each ; old cows from \$24 to \$28. Calves from six to eight months old are worth \$14 to \$16. Bulls for breeding purposes are imported chiefly from the eastern provinces of Canada and from Great Britain. Breeding enterprises for furnishing bulls, under the management of experienced men, would doubtless prove profitable ventures, and several are already being carried on, furnishing a class of stock not exceeded by many of the older established breeding farms of the east.

The outlay in cattle ranging is meeting with satisfactory and encouraging reward, there being ready sale at the ranches. In Northern Alberta this branch is but in its infancy, but is developing rapidly. The local market annually consumes from eighteen to twenty thousand beeves, with a growing demand, while the great market of the world is within easy access. The number shipped for England is annually increasing.

Horse Raising.

In breeding horses, Alberta occupies a somewhat similar position to Canada that Kentucky does to the United States. Owing to the high altitude, dry

and invigorating atmosphere, short and mild winters, and its nutritious grasses and inexhaustible supply of clear, cold water, it is pre-eminently adapted for breeding horses, and the Alberta animal has already become noted for endurance, lung power, and perfect freedom from hereditary and other diseases. There are, in Alberta, several grades of horses varying in point of quality from the hardy Indian pony (Cayuse), to the beautiful, well-formed thoroughbred. Thoroughbreds from Great Britain and Kentucky, Clydesdales from Scotland, Percherons from France and trotting stock from the United States have been imported at great expense, and the result is that the young horse of Alberta will compare with any in Canada, and finds a ready market in England and Belgium. Good three-quarter bred Clydes and Shires which at maturity will weigh 1,400 to 1,600 lbs., have been selling at three years old readily for \$75 to \$85. Good quality of other classes bring from \$40 to \$100. During 1896 Alberta-bred horses carried off all the principal events they were entered in in Montana and other Western States against the fastest stock of Northwestern America.

Sheep.

For sheep, there are thousands of acres of rich grass lands, well watered, and adapted in every way for first-class mutton and fine wool, where cold rains and dust storms, so injurious to the fleeces, are almost unknown. There is a railway running through the centre of the grazing lands and markets for mutton and wool are within reach. The clear, dry, bracing air of the country suits sheep, which suffer from little or no disease. Sheep mature early, owing to the fine quality of the grass. To winter them safely, good, warm, roomy sheds, plenty of hay (10 tons to the 100 head), and attention is all that is wanted. The popular breeds are Shrops and Downs, and in most cases they are crossed with Merinoes.

During the last ten years many hundreds of thousand cattle, sheep and horses have been raised in the southern half of Alberta on the rich grasses, without any feeding or shelter other than the shelter found along the hillsides or in clumps of trees on the bottom lands. The cattle and sheep when taken off the pasture are fat and fit for any butcher's shop in the world, and the horses are in capital condition.

Hogs.

The favorite breeds are Berkshires, Small Yorkshire Whites and Tamworths, which, if fed until they will weigh from 150 to 200 lbs. dressed, quoted (winter of 1897-98) at \$3.50 per 100 lbs. for consignment to pork packing and curing establishments. Those who are patrons of any creamery can always rear several pigs and find an active demand for them, and a good market is always attainable to those who have a surplus of coarse or inferior grains which can best be utilized in developing pigs to proper weight.

Poultry.

One of the most profitable branches of farming in the Canadian West is the production of eggs, especially if these can be obtained during the winter months, when prices range from 30c. to 40c. a dozen. There is also a fair demand for fowls for shipment east and west. This climate cannot be equalled for the rearing of turkeys, the dryness and altitude being especially favorable for this profitable bird. Geese, which are exceedingly hardy and easy to rear, grow to a large size on the rich pasture without very much care or extra feeding.

Dairying.

The conditions for carrying on dairying exist most favorably in Alberta, and although the industry is only in its infancy, great strides have been made. There are five government creameries in operation, besides several private ones. Good paying prices are obtained, the government making cash advances to the patrons on shipment of the product. The government creameries are established at Calgary, Innisfail, Red Deer, Wetaskiwin and Edmonton, and private enterprise has erected those at Olds, Tindastoll and Bowden. All have a number of separating stations, and a system of cold storage, and a regular refrigerator service is furnished by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., between certain points for the shipment of dairy produce, eggs and poultry.

Markets.

The apparent great distance of Northern Alberta from the large centres of population frequently leads to the wrong impression that the settlers there are without markets. Nothing could be farther from the actual facts. Northern Alberta is the nearest agricultural country to the rich mining regions of both northern and southern British Columbia which are rapidly developing, and with which a large and growing trade has already been established, which is being immensely increased since the completion of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway; and the whole Mackenzie Basin is supplied from Edmonton, which is an outfitting and supply depot for prospectors taking the Edmonton route to the gold-bearing streams north and west whose headwaters are reached from that town. The trade of this vast district is immense and gradually increasing, as mining and trading in the north expand, the fur trade alone reaching \$500,000 annually. The establishment of flour and oatmeal mills, creameries, etc., ensure an excellent market for the products of the farm.

The ranchmen of Southern Alberta find a ready market for their stock practically at their very doors through buyers who supply the English and British Columbia markets.

Minerals.

Alberta possesses untold wealth in her immense mineral deposits. For years past gold in paying quantities has been found on the banks and bars of the North and South Saskatchewan and in the Pembina, Smoky, McLeod and Athabasca rivers. Gold colors are found in many streams and rivers in Alberta. Large veins of galena have been located which are pronounced by experts to contain a large percentage of silver. Capital alone is wanting to make them treasures of wealth to the country. Copper ore in enormous quantities has also been found said to contain 60 per cent. of pure copper. Iron ore has been discovered in various parts of Alberta. A forty-foot seam of hematite iron, said to contain 67 per cent. of iron, exists at the base of Storm Mountain, quite close to the Canadian Pacific Railway line, and other large seams exist in the Macleod District.

As to the quantity of the coal deposits of Alberta, it is impossible to form any estimate, the whole country being underlaid with rich deposits of anthracite, bituminous, semi-bituminous and lignite. The coal mines already discovered are of sufficient extent to supply Canada with fuel for centuries. Lignites are now mined at Medicine Hat, Cypress Hills, Red Deer, Otooskiwan, Edmonton, Sturgeon River and Victoria, and are obtained at the pit's mouth at from 65c. to \$2.50 per ton, according to the demand—the greater the sale the lower the price. The semi-bituminous is mined at Lethbridge (where \$1,500,000 have been invested), Pot Hole, Milk River

Ridge, Woodpecker, Crowfoot and Knee Hill Creek, and is obtained at from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per ton. The true bituminous is mined at Waterton River, Pincher Creek, on each of the South, Middle and North Branches of the Old Man's River, on High River, Sheep Creek, Fish Creek, Bow River and Canmore, and fetches similar prices to the semi-bituminous. Anthracite is mined at Anthracite (four miles from Banff), and is sold aboard cars at from \$2 to \$3 per ton, according to grade. There are extensive collieries at Lethbridge, Canmore and Anthracite. The government issues permits to mine on Dominion lands at the following royalties : 10c. per ton for lignites, 15c. for bituminous, and 20c. for anthracite.

Soft coal is so plentiful that the certainty of a cheap fuel supply is assured to Albertans for all time to come.

Settlers' Testimony.

South Edmonton, October, 1898.

I have done very well as long as I am in this district, and I must say that I have raised three good crops for the three years that I am here. I have farmed in Minnesota 15 years, but I have never raised as big a crop from the same amount of land as I did here. My crop this year and last year is great ; my wheat this fall yielded on a piece of new land 41½ bushels ; my oats on an average 60 bushels, barley 40 bushels. I had 60 acres of grain in last season. I threshed 2,700 bushels, my crop at the present price would bring me the nice sum of \$850. I do not know where a farmer could do any better. All my nearest neighbors have good crops also ; they came out here with me three years ago last spring on my recommendation.

Any man that is willing to work can get along just as well here, I must say better, and cheaper than in Minnesota, because wood is plentiful here ; for cattle I like it very much better here.

AUGUST SCHUTZ.

Stony Plain, Nov. 1, 1898.

I came to this country in 1893 from Taftville, Kentucky, U.S., took up a homestead in Stony Plain, T. 52, R. 27. Started with \$500 ; the third year I sold \$700 worth of cattle, the fourth I sold \$650 worth of grain. This year I have 4,000 bushels of grain, ten head of cattle, eight horses, sixty pigs, and all the implements required on a farm. I have a good house, granary, stable, etc., and I would not sell my place for \$4,000. I had no experience at all in farming before I came here. I am very satisfied with my new home, and pleased over our healthy and beautiful climate, and advise any man with a little energy to come, so much the better if he has a little capital.

M. BILEAU.

Rosenthal, November 5, 1898.

I came to this country in April, 1893, from South Dakota without one dollar, worked with farmers the first two years. With the first \$10 that I earned I took up a homestead in Township 52, Range 1, west of the 5th. I

have 40 acres under cultivation. Sold \$200 worth of wheat last year, and will have more to sell this year. My wheat averaged 30 bushels to the acre. I have implements and stock to the value of \$600 and all paid for. A farmer will be more successful by going into mixed farming. Will recommend any person who desires to better themselves to come to this country, even if he is poor, if he is only willing and able to work.

FRED SCHIMF.

St. Albert, November 1, 1898.

I came here from Redfield, South Dakota, four years ago. Worked out for two years, and then took up land and started for myself with about \$300. I cropped 25 acres the first year and threshed 1,000 bushels of grain. I put in 30 acres this spring, and got 1,500 bushels. I have five horses and four head of cattle, wagon, plow, harrows and mower, a house 16x20, good stable and granary. I would not sell my place for \$1,000 cash. I was brought up on a farm and like farming, especially when a person can reap such good returns as he does in this country in mixed farming, and a person don't need to work as hard here as he must do in the States, in order to get along. My father is also living here, he arrived here one year later, and has done well and would not go back to the States on any account. I would recommend my friends to come to this country. I am located in Township 54, Range 25, S. 18.

FRANK ISEKE.

Fort Saskatchewan, Nov. 1898.

I came to Canada from Marvah, near Penzance, Cornwall, Eng., during the spring of 1885. I have since then been in several parts of the West, but I think the Edmonton District is the most suitable place for mixed farming. I went to Edmonton in 1892 and took up a homestead of 160 acres near Fort Saskatchewan. I started with about \$1,000. I bought all the necessary implements to go to work and several head of cattle, about 13 head; did not do very much farming the first year or so. My first crop of wheat of five acres, produced 187 bushels, 63 lbs. to the bushel, according to test at the mill at Fort Saskatchewan. I have every confidence in the country respecting its future.

People coming to the Edmonton District with about \$700 to \$1,000, can make very comfortable homes and do well. A fine climate, plenty of coal, wood and water and the mines of British Columbia close by. I have at present 70 head of cattle, nine horses and other stuff, etc.

H. HARVEY.

Leduc, October 1, 1898.

We write in regard to the Conjuring Creek District, Alberta. In regard to crops we can say but little as we did not arrive here until June 20th, and consequently did not have any of our own this year and did not get time to get out among old settlers very much, but can say we have seen very fine crops of grain and vegetables, and regarding the land I think this is as good as I have seen in the territory, as far as we have been over it. It was unsurveyed when we came here but the surveyors are here now and are surveying both townships we are located in. We can now show the land to all intending to locate, and will take pleasure in doing so. We have been here only about four months and have about 24 acres broken

and buildings up for our stock, and 40 tons of hay cut. It is our intention to follow mixed farming as there is plenty of feed here for cattle, also plenty of hay to be cut for winter feed. We are well satisfied with the prospects of this country as well as all others we have come in contact with in this section. We earnestly invite all land seekers to come to Conjuring Creek and we will take pleasure in showing them the lands.

J. I. KIRKPATRICK,
GEO. H. D. KIRKPATRICK,
FREDERICK KIRKPATRICK.

Edmonton, November 10, 1898.

We came here from Aberdeen, South Dakota, in the Spring of 1895 and rented a farm on the Sturgeon River, and after our first crop here we were more than convinced that the statements made in the pamphlets were not exaggerated, for we had 53 bushels of wheat to the acre, 7,000 bushels grain altogether. This year our wheat averaged 50 bushels to the acre, 5,000 in all. We have raised more grain since we came here than we did in 13 years where we came from and only had half the ground to work, no country can equal this. We are more than \$2,000 ahead in money besides this year's crop since coming here. In the States we were going behind every year. In this country we have no hot winds or blizzards to contend with like they have in Dakota where we came from. The winters are beautiful and healthy and the climate is extra fine, especially for people with weak lungs. Fuel is here in abundance, which is an expensive article in Aberdeen, Dakota, and a great drawback to farmers there. We have no taxes to pay except a small school tax, which was a great surprise to us; where we left everything was taxed, even the clothes on our back. A man that does not succeed in this country it is his own fault, for the soil is so rich that everything that is put in the ground to grow will grow if it is only half attended to. A friend of ours from the same place, Mr. Lewis, had over 1,000 bushels of oats off ten acres this year. We have bought a nice improved farm, twelve miles south of Edmonton, paid \$800 cash for it, and there are a number of other good improved farms for sale reasonable. We can cheerfully recommend our friends to come to this country and they will never regret it; we are only sorry that we did not come five years sooner.

NEIL MCLEAIN,
HECTOR MCLEAIN.

Red Deer, November, 1898.

I left Denmark in 1884 and came to Ontario where I worked as a laborer in several places; the last six or seven years I was in Carleton Place, but I could not see my way clear to make money enough to buy a small farm so I decided to go to Alberta and try my luck there. After I and my family got here I had \$210 left. A man here told me to get two or three cows as soon as I could as it would help me along better than anything else he knew of. I bought the cows and two horses to start with and now, in five years time, I have five horses, 23 head of cattle, of which 12 are milch cows, some pigs and poultry and about \$250 worth of implements; so considering all things I think it is a grand place here to get along in, and would advise anyone who is looking for a home to come here and try for themselves; but it is

better to have a few hundred dollars more than I had as they can get along far better and can stay at home all the time and look after the farm in the proper way, as in my case I have had to go out and work sometimes.

NIELS NIELSON.

The following letter appeared in the Calgary Herald :—I noticed in a late issue of your paper that 127 bushels of wheat had been grown on three acres of land. I wish to state that I can beat this as I had 150 bushels of Red Fife wheat off two and a-half acres, from five bushels seed. There was no more than two and a-half acres, as the land was measured. This statement can be proved by a number of farmers around me.

Red Deer, Feb. 7, 1898.

H. TOWERS.

Delegates' Reports.

Wetaskiwin, April, 1898.

I like this country very much so far, have seen a great number of farmers, some from the States, and everyone seem say they have done well and like it here far better than where they come from, and all claim it to be the best country for a poor man they were ever in, and with good crops this season I predict a great rush. There are some nice claims to be had yet. I do not find it any colder than in Iowa, and am feeling much better than when I left March 1st. I think this a great country for those who are suffering from throat and lung troubles. I have seen men that had as high as $51\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat per acre, and nearly 100 bushels oats, but they weigh from 45 to 51 pounds per bushel, but the general run is 25 to 30 wheat, 50 to 75 oats. Stock is looking fine, some cattle running out were nearly in market flesh.

D. E. STROVALL.

Edmonton, November 10, 1898.

We, the undersigned delegates, beg to state that we have been looking over Alberta District in the vicinity of Edmonton, and are well pleased with the country and its productions, in fact so much that we have each taken up a homestead, and bought three-quarter sections of C.P.R. lands. This indication is sufficient to show the public that we are more than satisfied with Alberta and its capabilities.

J. A. SANGSTER,
IRVIN FERRIS,
MOUNT PLEASANT, MICHIGAN.

Edmonton, October 27, 1898.

To those who are interested in the development of the Northwest Territories I will write a brief account of my trip through Alberta. On going north from Calgary we pass from a fine grazing country to a rich farming district beginning near the little town of Olds and extending north to the Vermillion and from the Rockies eastward for several hundred miles. I drove around Edmonton for several miles through some of the richest

agricultural districts that I have ever travelled in, notwithstanding the fact that I am a native of the world famed Mississippi Valley. I have seen wheat here that yielded 60 bushels to the acre and oats 120, and I firmly believe that for all kinds of vegetables this country cannot be excelled anywhere. The soil here is very rich in vegetable mould that has been deposited here by the decomposition of the rank vegetation that year by year left great deposits on its surface. So much for its agricultural qualities. Now I will speak of its other natural resources :—Almost the entire Northwest is well supplied with fuel in the form of wood and coal. Poplar is very plentiful throughout Alberta, while spruce, pine and tamarac will be found in sufficient quantity to furnish the building material of the country for all time to come. The valleys of the Saskatchewan and the Sturgeon rivers are underlaid with vast coal beds that would probably rival the great coal fields of Pennsylvania and Ohio. Coal may be had at these mines for the digging, or if one would prefer buying it already dug he can get it at the mine for \$1.00 per ton. Coal oil has been discovered near the Athabasca River, and a little farther north immense beds of pure salt have been found, both waiting for time and capital to develop them into great industries. What more could a farmer wish than a rich farming country like this with plenty of fuel and building timber right at his very door and near a market that is almost equal to the Chicago prices for all kinds of farm produce and where he can buy the necessities of life as cheap as he can in the east.

J. FRANK POLLARD,
ELDON, IOWA.

Edmonton, January, 1898.

I left West Superior, Wis., and came direct from Winnipeg to Edmonton, Alberta. We drove around the country, first day northeast of the Saskatchewan River, where we found a grove-like, well-settled farming country, coming back to Edmonton on the south side. The country is, in my estimation, fully as good as advertised. We have found one threshing crew, all Germans, the most happy people I have ever seen. One of the men, Mr. Hugo Erwen, told me he got from 20 acres new land 960 bushels of wheat, 48 bushels to the acre, 25 to 30 bushels to the acre is very common. Vegetables of every kind are far better than ever I have seen in the States. The soil is deep black loam clay subsoil, as good a soil as North America can produce. Will go northwest as soon as I can for about forty miles, as I have promised to my people; my intention is to buy some land in the spring as close to Edmonton as possible, because here is plenty of wood, coal, hay and everything right handy.

OTTO GASAL.

Winnipeg, June 10, 1898.

We, the undersigned delegates from Watertown, South Dakota, have just visited the district lying round Penoka, in the Edmonton Railway.

We are much pleased with the appearance of this district, soil is a rich, deep, black loam, hay and water are in abundance and there is plenty of timber for building and fuel. There is no scarcity of open land for farming operations, and there is a tract of forty sections of land, formerly held as an Indian Reservation, which is being surveyed and will be thrown open for purchase. This is only two miles distant from the station, and we have decided to buy and settle there as soon as it becomes available. There is good

homestead land to be had from six to 12 miles from the station. The cattle in this neighborhood are in fine condition, and we did not see a single poor animal in the district, which is a new district and not so thickly settled as around Edmonton and Wetaskiwin. We found the farmers doing well and satisfied with their prospects.

L. E. SPICER,
D. G. RICHARDSON,
WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA, U.S.

Edmonton, October 1, 1898.

I have been sent up to the Edmonton District as a delegate from Cloquet, State of Minnesota. I visited the district northeast of Edmonton, near Fort Saskatchewan, and found the land first-class, rich soil, plenty of wood and coal and water. I see no reason why any man engaged here in mixed farming should not do well. The yield of grain here last year was very large—about 40 to 50 bushels of wheat and 100 to 110 bushels of oats to the acre. The stock is splendid, and I think the country is as good as can be for stock raising. One man told me he sold twelve head of three-year-old steers for \$47.50 apiece. I then visited the Dried Meat District southeast of Wetaskiwin, and found this just as good a country, and the settlers are prosperous and happy, and most obliging in giving assistance and information to immigrants. I have decided to secure a farm in this country as soon as I can, as I did not meet a single farmer who was not content and prospering. Most of these same men went in there with very little.

I saw some fine homestead land some 25 to 30 miles from Wetaskiwin and the farmers near that town bring in their milk to the government creamery and get the skim milk back to feed their pigs and calves, and realize about 16 cents cash for their butter.

F. M. FORD.

Edmonton, September 13, 1898.

I came up here from Burr Oak, Kansas, U.S., to see this country, and I beg leave to submit the following:

1st. I find the English a very sociable and courteous class of people. They make their own laws here about the same as we do in the States. They have a duty on imported goods from England almost as high as we have, in order to encourage home industries. A very mild climate in the summer, and from the looks of the people, a very healthy one. I have been here almost a week, and I saw but one sickly looking man since I crossed the line. Their soil is a rich, black loam—wheat, oats and barley are the staple products of the farm, and the large elevators are an index to both quality and quantity raised. It is a fine grazing country. I saw nicer cattle and horses on the range than I saw any place this side of St. Paul, Minn. And sheep I never saw the equal in any of our western States.

They have about five hours longer daylight in the long summer days than we have, which gives them almost as much daylight in three months to grow a crop as we have in four. Wood and coal in abundance—coal \$1.50 per ton. All the tax the farmers have is school tax, which encourages education very much. They have Indian schools the same as we have. The contented condition of the people shews the prosperity of the country, and at the present rate of immigration homestead entries will soon be a thing of the past. The nearest of any now to Edmonton is 16 miles. The country is

just now, and from the appearance, when its resources are fully developed will make a very rich country. There are quite a good many of our people here from the States. Hotel accommodations are excellent, at nominal rates.

H. E. FAIDLEY.

Winnipeg, April 26, 1898.

In the beginning of April I visited the district lying between Calgary and Edmonton, and at South Edmonton saw a beautiful country, well timbered and watered, where wheat stubble had grown 50 bushels to the acre, and pulled up one stool which grew 45 straws from a single grain of wheat. The straw we measured was five feet high and very bright. There is plenty of coal in this neighborhood which can be dug from the banks of the River Saskatchewan. The sheep, pigs and cattle were all in fine condition. We visited W. D. Carscadden ; he has 44 cattle which were out all winter with his horses, and we found them in good condition and ready for spring work. He had a very fine colt, three years, weighing 1,250 lbs. His wheat is Red Fife, went 64 lbs. to the bushel and he threshed 37½ bushels to the acre. It was the finest wheat ever seen by the delegates. His oats went 45 lbs. to the bushel and 60 bushels to the acre, and the highest he ever raised was 110 bushels to the acre. Barley was very heavy and went 45 bushels to the acre. Timothy hay there went two tons to the acre. He never suffered from frost here in 16 years. At Wetaskiwin we visited the government creamery, which is well equipped and the profits go to benefit the farmer patrons. You have to go about thirty miles for homestead land near the Dried Meat Lake. This is park-like land of finest quality, of which it is impossible to speak too highly ; abundance of timber and water. Two boys caught 273 fish in one afternoon in that lake. Hog cholera is unknown in this country and hogs do well here. We saw at Wetaskiwin nine car-loads of fine cattle being shipped east, the first of a shipment of 600 head. We found every farmer well satisfied and many of our party of delegates have decided to settle here. Railway land sells on easy terms, spread over 10 years sells at \$3 an acre, and I would advise any who wish to homestead to go to that district.

CHARLES ROSE,
McCOOK, RED WILLOW CO., NEBRASKA, U.S.A.

Edmonton, July 8, 1898.

We, the undersigned delegates from South Dakota, and Minnesota, having driven over the Edmonton District wish to give you our opinion of the country, its soil and surroundings.

The country is just beautiful and the soil the richest we have ever seen, and we are all thoroughly convinced that it cannot be excelled for mixed farming. We drove through several large settlements and everywhere found the farmer prosperous and contented. They have natural markets in the Kootenay country and the northern gold fields, therefore good prices are obtained for all farm produce. The cattle are easily grown and bring splendid prices, also all kinds of fowl. We found plenty of schools and churches, and from information received we are satisfied that the educational system is hard to beat and the taxes very light. We also learned that the government creameries which are established at various points have been, on account of the perfect system of management, a great benefit financially to the farmer. The crops in Poplar Lake, Beaver Hills, Agricola

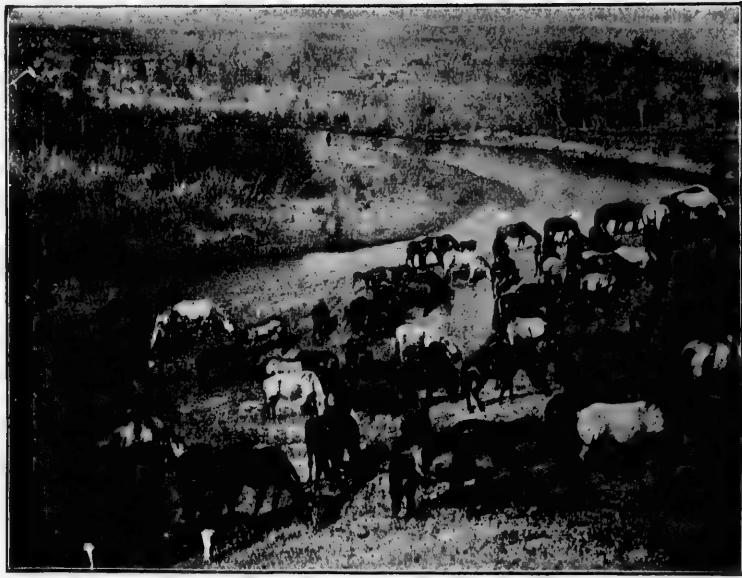
and Clover Bar districts look first-class with the exception of being a little light in places. We are all well pleased and satisfied with the Alberta District.

W. H. SHIELDS, SOUTH DAKOTA.
EZRA FERGUSON, "
R. B. VEDER, "
S. WELLINGTON, "
J. B. PERRY, MINNESOTA.

Winnipeg, August 3, 1898.

We, the undersigned, visited the Edmonton District as farmer delegates from Nodaway County, Missouri, and are much pleased with what we have seen. At the Agricultural Society grounds there we saw oats grown this year sown about 20th May and on 2nd inst., they were five feet four inches in height, and estimated likely to yield 125 bushels to the acre. It would be hard to speak too highly of the fertility of the soil and we saw spring wheat sown last fall at the Galician colony, of good height, promising a heavy yield and was ripening fast on the 20th July. We saw cattle fat enough to ship, fed on grass alone, running on the prairie. Yearlings bring \$20 to \$25, and two-year-olds about \$35. Good milch cows are worth \$40 to \$50. We found there the finest timber we have ever seen, poplar and tamarac, cottonwood and spruce, and coal in abundance. We saw coal which could be teamed by farmers from the river bank by paying 50 cents and doing the loading themselves. Farmers have done well and express themselves as well contented and prosperous. We have selected between us three-quarters of a section of C.P.R. land about twelve miles northwest of Edmonton and intend returning there next spring, and can confidently recommend this district to any one looking for a new home. Any man willing to work has good prospects of success here. All settlers speak highly of the healthiness of the climate, and the majority of them say that the winters are dry, bracing and enjoyable.

JOHN POWELL,
JAS. C. SAUNDERS.
. DELEGATES FROM MISSOURI, U.S.A.



R. G. ROBINSON'S HORSE RANCH, ELBOW RIVER, NEAR
CALGARY.



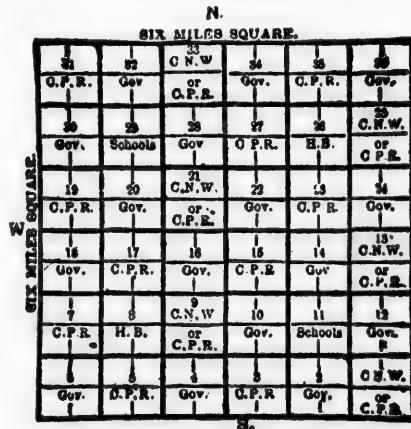
SOME OF GEO. BRYAN'S CATTLE AT INNISFAIL, ALB.

SYSTEM OF LAND SURVEY.

Manitoba and the Northwest Territories have now been accurately surveyed by the Dominion Government, and parcelled out into square and uniform lots on the following plan : The land is divided into "townships" six miles square. Each township contains thirty-six "sections" of 640 acres, or one square mile each section, and these are again sub-divided into quarter sections of 160 acres. A road allowance, one chain wide, is provided for between each section running north and south, and between every alternate section east and west.

The following is a plan of a township :

Township Diagram.



Each square contains 640 acres; each quarter-section contains 160 acres.

A section contains 640 acres, and forms one mile square.

Government Lands, open for homestead (that is for free settlement).—Section Nos. 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36.

Canadian Pacific Railway Lands for sale.—Section Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 31, 33, 35.

Section Nos. 1, 9, 13, 21, 25, 33, along the main line, Winnipeg to Moose Jaw, can be purchased from Canada Northwest Land Company.

School Sections—Section Nos. 11 and 29 are reserved by government for school purposes.

Hudson's Bay Company's Lands for sale—Section Nos. 8 and 26.

FREE HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

Any even-numbered section of Dominion lands in Manitoba or the North-West Territories, excepting 8 and 26, which has not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or other purposes, may be homesteaded upon by any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over eighteen years of age, to the extent of one-quarter section of 160 acres, more or less.

Entry.

Entry may be made personally at the local land office for the district in which the land to be taken is situate, or if the homesteader desires, he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Ottawa, or any local agent, receive authority for some one to make the entry for him. A fee of \$10 is charged for an ordinary homestead entry; but for lands which have been occupied an additional fee of \$5, and in some cases \$10 is chargeable to meet inspection and cancellation expenses.

The entry must be perfected within six months of its date by the settler beginning to reside upon and cultivate the land, unless entry is obtained after the 1st of September, in which case it need not be perfected before the 1st day of June following.

Homestead Duties.

After perfecting his Homestead Entry as described, the settler must continue to reside upon and cultivate the land for which he holds entry for three years from the date thereof, during which period he may not be absent from the land for more than six months in any one year without forfeiting the entry.

Upon furnishing proof, which must be satisfactory to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, that he has fulfilled the conditions as to residence and cultivation before specified, the settler will be entitled to a patent from the Crown for his homestead, provided he is a British subject by birth or naturalization.

If the homesteader desires to obtain his patent within a shorter period than three years he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the government price ruling at the time, upon proof that he has resided thereon for twelve months from the date of perfecting entry, and that he has brought at least thirty acres under cultivation.

Application for Patent

may be made before the local agent, sub-agent, or any homestead inspector. Before making application for patent the settler must give six months' notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Ottawa, of his intention to do so. When for the convenience of settler, application for patent is made before a homestead inspector, a fee of \$5 is chargeable; no fee, however, being charged if the application be made at the land office. Application for patent must be made within five years from the date of the homestead entry, otherwise the right thereto is liable to forfeiture.

GOVERNMENT MINERAL LANDS.

Coal Lands.

If surveyed, can be purchased by one individual to the extent of 320 acres, price \$10 per acre for soft coal, \$20 per acre for anthracite. Purchaser has to pay no royalty, nor yet be compelled to work same.

Right to Explore for Coal.

On staking out boundaries north and south, east and west lines marking on each post the name of individual staking same, date of such staking; then apply to Minister of the Interior, who will grant right upon payment of \$10 to explore for 60 days on expenditure of at least \$2 per day. At expiration of 60 days a further extension may be granted if asked for. This right to explore enables parties to satisfy themselves whether there is sufficient coal on the property to warrant a purchase.

Synopsis of the Regulations for the Disposal of Quartz Mining Claims on Dominion Lands in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories (including the Yukon Territory).

Every person 18 years of age and over, but not under, and every joint stock company holding a Free Miner's Certificate, may obtain an entry for a mining location.

A Free Miner's Certificate is granted for one year and is not transferable. The fee for a Free Miner's Certificate for an individual is \$10, and for a Free Miner's Certificate to a joint stock company, from \$50 to \$100, according to the nominal capital of the company.

The holder of a Free Miner's Certificate who has discovered mineral in place, may locate a claim not exceeding 1,500 feet long by 1,500 feet wide, by marking it with two legal posts, one at each end, on the line of the lode, or vein, and marking out the line between them. Upon each post shall be marked the name of the claim, the name of the person locating and the date, and the number of feet lying to the right and left of the line.

The claim shall be recorded with the Mining Recorder of the District within which it is situated, within 15 days after the location thereof, if located within 10 miles of the office of the Recorder; one additional day shall be allowed for such record for every additional 10 miles or fraction thereof. In the event of a claim being more than 100 miles from a Recorder's office and situated where other claims are being located, the Free Miners, not less than five in number, may appoint a Free Miner's Recorder, but if the latter fails within three months to notify the nearest Government Mining Recorder of his appointment, the claims which he may have recorded will be cancelled.

The fee for recording a claim is \$5.

An expenditure of not less than \$100 per year must be made on the claim, or a like amount paid to the Mining Recorder in lieu thereof. When \$500 has been expended or paid in connection with the location, the locator may, upon having a survey thereof made and upon complying with certain other requirements, purchase the land at the rate of \$5 per acre cash, but if the surface rights have already been disposed of, at \$2 an acre.

A location for the mining of iron, mica and copper, not exceeding 160 acres in area, may be granted, provided that should any Free Miner obtain a location which subsequently is found to contain a valuable mineral deposit other than iron, mica or copper, his right in such deposit shall be restricted to the area prescribed for other minerals, and the remainder of the location shall revert to the Crown.

The patent for a mining location shall reserve to the Crown forever, whatever royalty may hereafter be imposed on the sales of the products of all mines therein, and the same royalty shall be collected on the sales which may be made prior to the issue of the patent.

A liberal supply of timber for house building purposes and fuel is granted free to settlers on payment of a small office fee for the permit to cut.

For full information as to the conditions of tender, and sale of timber, coal or other mineral lands, apply to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ont., or to any of the Dominion Land Agents, Manitoba or the Northwest Territories.

JAMES A. SMART,

Ottawa, Canada.

Deputy Minister of the Interior.

INFORMATION FOR SETTLERS.

Newly arrived immigrants will receive at any Dominion Lands Office in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories information as to the lands that are open for entry, and from the officers in charge, free of expense, advice and assistance in securing lands to suit them; and full information respecting the land, timber, coal and mineral laws, and copies of these regulations, as well as those respecting Dominion Lands in the Railway Belt in British Columbia, may be obtained on application to the Superintendent of Immigration, Department of the Interior, Ottawa; the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Manitoba; the Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture, Regina, N.W.T., or to any of the Dominion Lands Agents in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories.

For disposal of the public lands by free-grant or sale, the Dominion has established the following agencies, at which all the business in relation to lands within the district of each must be transacted.

Government Land Offices.

(Figures are inclusive).

Winnipeg District.—Includes all surveyed townships, Nos. 1 to 25 north; ranges—all east of 1st meridian, and ranges 1 to 8 west; also townships 1 to 4, ranges 9 to 14, and townships 5 to 7, ranges 9 to 12 west. Agent, Winnipeg.

Brandon District.—Townships 1 to 4, range 15 west to 2nd meridian; townships 5 to 7, range 13 west to 2nd meridian; townships 8 to 12, range 9 west to 2nd meridian; townships 13 and 14, range 23 west to 2nd meridian; townships 15 and 16, range 29 west to 2nd meridian. Agent, Brandon.

Minnedosa District.—Townships 13 and 14, ranges 9 to 22 west; townships 15 to 20, ranges 9 to 24 west; townships north of and including township 15, ranges 25 to 28 west, and townships north of and including township 17 in range 29 west. Agent, Minnedosa.

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Dauphin District.—Townships north of and including township 21, ranges 10 to 24 west. Agent, Dauphin.

Alameda District.—Townships 1 to 9, ranges 1 to 30 west 2nd meridian. Agent, Estevan.

Regina District.—Townships 10 to 18, ranges 1 west of 2nd to 30 west of 3rd; townships 19 to 21, ranges 7 west of 2nd to 29 west of 3rd; townships 22 and 23, ranges 10 west of 2nd to 29 west of 3rd; townships 22 to 30, ranges 20 west of 2nd to 29 west of third; townships 31 to 38, ranges 20 west of 2nd to 10 west of 3rd.

Yorkton District.—Townships north of and including township 17, ranges 30 to 33 west 1st meridian; townships north of and including township 19; ranges 1 to 6 west of 2nd meridian; townships north of and including township 22, ranges 7 to 9 west 2nd meridian; townships north of and including township 24, ranges 10 to 12 west 2nd meridian; townships 24 to 38, ranges 13 to 20 west 2nd meridian. Agent, Yorkton.

Lethbridge District.—Townships 1 to 18, ranges 1 to 24 west of the 4th meridian; townships 1 to 12, range 25 west of the 4th meridian to B.C. Agent, Lethbridge.

Calgary District—Townships 19 to 30, ranges 1 to 7 west 4th meridian; townships 19 to 34, ranges 8 to 24 west 4th meridian; townships 13 to 34, range 25 west 4th meridian to B.C. Agent Calgary.

Red Deer Sub-District—Townships 35 to 42, range 8 west 4th meridian to B.C. Agent, Red Deer.

Edmonton District—Townships north of and including township 43 from range 8 west of 4th meridian to British Columbia. Agent, Edmonton.

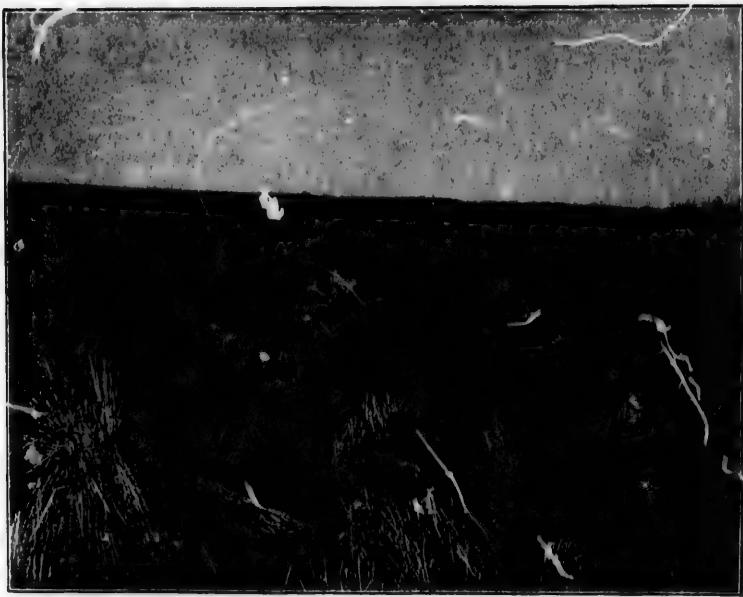
Battleford District—Townships north of and including township 31, range 11 west of 3rd meridian to 7 west of 4th meridian. Agent, Battleford.

Prince Albert District—Townships north of and including township 39, range 13 west of 2nd meridian to 10 west of 3rd meridian. Agent, Prince Albert.

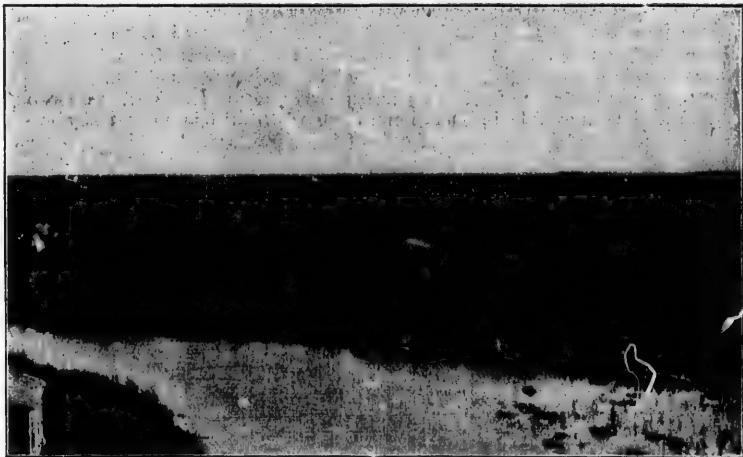
From time to time the boundaries of the different agencies are liable to alteration as the progress of settlement renders advisable. In every case, however, ample notice is given to the public of any changes made in the land districts, and in the case of colonists newly arriving in Manitoba, they can obtain the fullest possible information in regard to all land matters by enquiring at the office of the Commissioner of Immigration in Winnipeg.

At the offices in the districts, detailed maps will be found showing the exact homestead lands vacant. The agents are always ready to give every assistance and information in their power.

Labor registers are kept at the Government Land and Immigration offices and may be made use of, free of charge, by persons seeking employment as well as by farmers and others seeking help of any kind.



J. C. C. BREMNER'S 110 ACRE FARM, CLOVER BAR, ALB.



GRAIN FIELD, PLUM COULEE, MANITOBA.

RAILWAY LAND REGULATIONS.

The Canadian Pacific Railway lands consist of the odd-numbered sections along the Main Line and Branches, and in the Lake Dauphin District in Manitoba and the Saskatchewan, Battle and Red Deer River Districts in Alberta. The Railway Lands are for sale at the various agencies of the company in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, at the following prices:

Lands in the Province of Manitoba average \$3 to \$6 an acre.

Lands in Assiniboia, east of the 3rd meridian, average \$3 to \$4 an acre.

Lands west of the 3rd meridian, including most of the valuable lands in the Calgary District, \$3 per acre.

Lands in Saskatchewan, Battle and Red Deer River Districts, \$3 per acre.

For the convenience of investors, maps showing in detail the lands and prices, have been prepared and will be sent free to applicants.

TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The aggregate amount of principal and interest is divided into ten instalments; the first to be paid at the time of purchase, the second two years from the date of purchase, the third in three years and so on.

Interest on the outstanding purchase money is payable in one year from date of purchase except in the case of an actual settler who breaks up at least one-sixteenth of the land within that time. No rebate of interest is allowed on hay lands.

The following table shows the amount of the annual instalments on a quarter section of 160 acres at different prices:—

160 acres at \$3.00 per acre, 1st instal't	\$71.90	and nine equal instal't of	\$60.00
" " 3.50 "	83.90	" "	70.00
" " 4.00 "	95.85	" "	80.00
" " 4.50 "	107.85	" "	90.00
" " 5.00 "	119.85	" "	100.00
" " 5.50 "	131.80	" "	110.00
" " 6.00 "	143.80	" "	120.00

DISCOUNT FOR CASH. If land is paid for in full at time of purchase a reduction from price will be allowed equal to ten per cent. on the amount paid in excess of the usual cash instalment.

Interest at six per cent. will be charged on overdue instalments.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

All sales are subject to the following general conditions:—

1. All improvements placed upon land purchased to be maintained thereon until final payment has been made.
2. All taxes and assessments lawfully imposed upon the land or improvements to be paid by the purchaser.
3. The Company reserves from sale, under the regulations, all mineral and coal lands, and lands containing timber in quantities, stone, slate and marble quarries, lands with water power thereon, and tracts for town sites and railway purposes.
4. Mineral, coal and timber lands and quarries, and lands controlling

water power, will be disposed of on very moderate terms to persons giving satisfactory evidence of their intention and ability to utilize the same.

Liberal rates for settlers and their effects are granted by the Company over their railway.

Southern Manitoba Lands.

The lands of the Manitoba South-Western Railway Company are administered by the Land Commissioner of the Canadian Pacific Railway, under the same regulations as above. They consist of over 1,000,000 acres of the choicest lands in America, well adapted for grain growing and mixed farming, in a belt 21 miles wide, immediately north of the international boundary, and from range 13 westward.

The Manitoba South-Western lands are subject, in addition to the purchase money, to the payment of a survey fee of ten cents per acre.

Thriving Towns.

The Company offer for sale at their Land Office in Winnipeg most desirable Town Lots in the various towns and villages along the Main Line east of Brandon, and along all branch lines in Manitoba.

The terms for payment for these lots are:— One-third cash, balance in six and twelve months, with interest at eight per cent. If paid for in full at time of purchase, a discount of ten per cent. will be allowed. For further particulars apply to

L. A. HAMILTON,
Land Commissioner C.P.R. Co., Winnipeg.

For the convenience of applicants, information as to prices and terms of purchase of railway lands may be obtained from all station agents along the Company's main line and branches. In no case, however, is a railway agent entitled to receive money in payment for lands. All payments must be remitted direct to the Land Commissioner at Winnipeg.

The Canada Northwest Land Co.

This Company own 1,900,000 acres of selected land in Manitoba and Assiniboina. Purchasers have the privilege of paying for these lands in the preferred shares of the Company. At the present price of the shares some of the choicest lands in Manitoba and other well-settled districts can be obtained at \$3 per acre. These lands are on sale at the various land agencies of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. For maps and further information application should be made to

L. A. HAMILTON,
LAND COMMISSIONER, WINNIPEG.

Stop-over Privileges.

Intending settlers are given the privilege of stopping over at stations where they wish to inspect land. Application should be made to the conductor before reaching station where stop-over is required.

SETTLERS' EFFECTS.

Freight Regulations on the C.P.R.

1. The rates in this tariff are subject to the general notices and conditions of carriage printed in the company's form of Shipping Receipt.
2. Carloads of Settlers' Effects, within the meaning of this tariff, may be made up of the following described property for the benefit of actual settlers, viz.: Live Stock, any number up to but not exceeding ten (10) head, all told, viz.; Cattle, calves, sheep, hogs, mules or horses; Household goods and personal property (second-hand); Wagons, or other vehicles for personal use (second-hand); Farm Machinery, Implements and Tools (all second-hand); Lumber and Shingles, which must not exceed 2,500 feet in all, or the equivalent thereof; or in lieu of, not in addition to the lumber and shingles, a portable house may be shipped; Seed Grain, small quantity of trees or shrubbery; small lot live poultry or pet animals; and sufficient feed for the live stock while on the journey.
3. Should the allotted number of live stock be exceeded, the additional animals will be charged for at proportionate rates over and above the Carload rate for the Settlers' Effects, but the total charge for any one such car will not exceed the regular rate for a straight carload of Live Stock.
4. Passes.—One man will be passed free in charge of live stock when forming part of carloads, to feed, water and care for them in transit. Agents will use the usual form of Live Stock Contract.
5. Less than carloads will be understood to mean only Household Goods (second-hand), Wagons, or other vehicles for personal use (second-hand), and (second-hand) Farm Machinery, Implements and tools. Less than carload lots must be plainly addressed. Settlers' effects rates, however, will not apply on shipments of second-hand wagons, buggies, farm machinery, implements or tools, unless accompanied by household goods. Minimum Charge.—Minimum charge on any shipment will be 100 lbs. at regular first-class rate.
6. Merchandise, such as groceries, provisions, hardware, etc., also implements, machinery, vehicles, etc., if new, will not be regarded as Settlers' Effects, and, if shipped, will be charged the regular classified tariff rates. Agents, both at loading and delivering stations, are, therefore, strictly enjoined to give their personal attention to the preventing of the loading of contraband articles, and to see that the actual weights are way-billed when carloads exceed 20,000 lbs.
7. Top loads.—Agents must not permit, under any circumstances, any article to be loaded on the top of box or stock cars: such manner of loading is dangerous, and is absolutely forbidden.
8. Settlers' Effects, to be entitled to the Carload rates, cannot be stopped at any point short of destination for the purpose of unloading part. The entire carload must go through to the station to which originally consigned.
9. The Carload rates on Settlers' Effects apply on any shipment occupying a car, and weighing 20,000 lbs. or less. If the carload weighs over 20,000 lbs., the additional weight will be charged for at rates shown.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

Settlers' Effects.

Settlers' Effects, viz.;— Wearing apparel, household furniture, books, implements and tools of trade, occupation or employment, musical instruments, domestic sewing machines, live stock, carts and other vehicles and agricultural implements in use by the settler for at least a year before his removal from Canada, not to include machinery, or articles imported for use in any manufacturing establishment, or for sale, also books, pictures, family plate or furniture, personal effects and heirlooms left by bequest ; provided that any dutiable article entered as settlers' effects may not be so entered unless brought with the settler on his first arrival, and shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of without payment of duty, until after twelve months actual use in Canada ; provided also that under regulations made by the Controller of Customs, live stock, when imported into Manitoba or the Northwest Territories by intending settlers shall be free until otherwise ordered by the Governor-in-Council.

Settlers arriving from the United States are allowed to enter duty free stock in the following proportions : One animal of meat stock or horses for each ten acres of land purchased or otherwise secured under homestead entry, and one sheep or swine for each acre so secured.

The settler will be required to fill up a form (which will be supplied him by the customs officer on application), giving description, value, etc., of the goods and articles he wishes to be allowed to bring in free of duty. He will also be required to take the following oaths :

I.....do hereby solemnly make oath and say, that all the goods and articles hereinbefore mentioned are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, entitled to free entry as settlers' effects, under the tariff duties of customs now in force, and that all of them have been owned and in actual use by myself for at least six months before removal to Canada ; and that none of the goods or articles shown in this entry have been imported as merchandise or for any use in manufacturing establishment, or for sale, and that I intend becoming a permanent settler within the Dominion of Canada.

Sworn to before me at.....} }
.....day of.....189}

The following oath shall be made by intending settlers when importing live stock in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories, free of duty.

I.....do solemnly swear that I am now moving into Manitoba (or the Northwest Territories), with the intention of becoming a settler therein, and that the live stock enumerated and described in the entry hereunto attached is intended for my own use on the farm which I am about to occupy (or cultivate) and not for sale or speculative purposes, nor for the use of any other person or persons whomsoever.

No Cattle Quarantine.

The regulations regarding the quarantine of settlers' cattle for ninety days before entering Canada, have been cancelled and no delay whatever is now experienced at the boundary line beyond that ordinarily required for inspection.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

How to Obtain a Ranch.

If it is the intention to embark in the business of raising cattle, horses or sheep on a large scale, an extent of ground equal to the rancher's requirements can be obtained under lease from the Dominion Government on the following easy terms :

Settlers and others can obtain leases of public lands. The lease shall be for a period not exceeding twenty-one years. The lessee shall pay an annual rental of two cents an acre. The lessee shall within three years place one head of cattle for every twenty acres of land covered by his lease ; at least one-third the number of cattle stipulated for shall be placed on the range within each of the three years from the date of the order-in-council granting the lease. Whether he be a lessee or not, no person shall be allowed to place sheep upon lands in Manitoba and the Northwest without permission from the Minister of the Interior. Full particulars can be obtained on application to the Minister of Interior, Ottawa.

Capitalists coming to this country and wishing to engage in this business will find thousands of acres of unoccupied meadow lands, possessing every attraction and advantage from which to choose a location.

Capital Required.

The question " How much is necessary ? " is a difficult one to answer. It depends upon circumstances. Very many men have gone into Western Canada without any capital and have prospered. A little capital, however, makes the start easier and saves valuable time. Some statements of what can be done upon a certain capital, say 500 dollars (£100) or 1,000 dollars (£200), or 3,000 dollars (£600), may, nevertheless, be advantageous.

This information has been given by many writers, in tables of various kinds and for various localities, but all amount to about the same conclusions, namely :

The 500 dollars (£100) will set a man down upon some western quarter-section (160 acres) obtained as free homestead, or one chosen among the cheaper lands belonging to the railway company, and enable him to build a house and stay there until his farm becomes productive and self-supporting.

In this connection a practical farmer of some years' residence in Manitoba speaks as follows :

" Land can be purchased cheaply here, or it can be had for nothing by homesteading. A single man can start on an outlay of \$385, made up as follows : One yoke of oxen and harness, \$100 ; plow, harrow, etc., \$40 ; stove and kitchen furnishings, \$40 ; bedding, etc., \$20 ; lumber, doors, windows, etc., for log house, \$50 ; provisions, \$90 ; seed, \$30. A farmer with a family of five would have to lay out \$240 more, bringing his outlay up to about \$600.

" A farmer can come in about the middle of March, select his land and build his shanty ; he can commence to plough about the fifth of April ; he can break 10 acres and put it under crop on the sod ; he can continue breaking for two months after he puts the ten acres under crop, and can break 30 acres, and backset the 40 acres in the fall ready for crop in the spring. He can raise enough on the ten acres to give him a start ; he can cut hay

enough for his oxen and a cow in July, and it will cost him about \$60 additional to seed the forty acres in the spring."

It must not be forgotten, however, that hundreds have arrived at Winnipeg without any money, and by first working on wages have prospered and become substantial farmers.

When to Go.

The best time to arrive in Western Canada for those who have decided where they will locate, or for young men expecting employment on a farm, is March. The latter will then have opportunities of visiting different sections, if they desire, before the busy season sets in, and the actual settler with a family will be able to get settled before the farm work claims his attention. Those wishing to make a prospecting tour with the idea of becoming settlers should start during the summer or early fall—from the beginning of June to the end of August—when the conditions are most favorable for the selection of land.

Educational Facilities.

The management of the school system in the Territories is vested in a Council of Public Instruction, consisting of four members of the local government and four appointed members without votes—two Protestant and two Roman Catholics. A school district comprises an area of not more than twenty-five square miles, and must contain not less than four resident ratepayers and twelve children between the ages of five and sixteen, inclusive. Any three qualified ratepayers may petition for the formation of a school district, and upon its proclamation the ratepayers therein may establish a school and elect trustees to manage it. These trustees have power to erect and equip buildings, engage certificated teachers, levy taxes and perform such other acts as may be necessary for the proper conduct of a school. The classes of schools established are denominated Public and Separate. The minority of the ratepayers in any organized public school district, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, may establish a separate school therein, and in such case the ratepayers establishing such Protestant or Roman Catholic separate school, shall be liable only to assessment of such rates as they impose upon themselves in respect thereof. Any person who is legally assessed or assessable for a public school shall not be liable to assessment for any separate school established therein. Schools are maintained by legislative grants and by local taxation. The school year for which grants may be paid does not exceed 210 teaching days. The legislative grant is paid as follows:—For each day a school (with an average attendance of at least six pupils) is open, \$1.40; for every pupil in average daily attendance an additional grant of \$1.50 per school year; for a teacher holding a second class certificate 10 cents, or a first class certificate, 20 cents for each day such teacher is actually engaged in teaching; to each school according to its grading on inspector's reports a sum not exceeding 15 cents per day. The grant paid in no case exceeds 70 per cent. of the salary earned by the teacher. High schools receive a special additional grant of \$75 per term. In the programme of studies provision is made for teaching the elementary subjects, and such additional subjects as are required for teachers examinations and university matriculation. The last half hour of school may be devoted to such religious instruction as the trustees may determine. In 1897 there were 394 schools in operation with 470 teachers and 14,576 pupils. Towards the support of these schools the legislature expended \$138,625. The people take a keen interest in their schools, and provide means for giving children as practical an education as can be obtained in the older provinces.

The Danger of Debt.

One of the dangers the settler must avoid if he wishes to prosper is debt. The temptation to purchase agricultural implements and horses on credit is almost irresistible, and has proved a source of trouble to many a settler. Another fruitful source of evil is endeavoring to accomplish too much, placing a larger acreage under crop than the settler can handle without the aid of hired help. The successful farmers are most invariably those who, commencing with a small capital, have in the first years of their farming operations, confined the area to, say, not exceeding 100 acres. Such an area of ground, if prepared by summer fallowing, can be done without hired labor and with an inexpensive outfit of machinery.

Exemption laws are in force in the Territories, which protect a certain acreage and buildings, if registered under the Homesteads Exemption Act, a certain quantity of live stock, some household effects and a year's provisions from seizure for ordinary debts (unless mortgaged) of the settler.

Cost of Supplies.

There are a large number of towns, villages and ham'ets scattered throughout the entire country from Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, at which articles needed by farmers are readily obtainable. Reasonable prices are charged, generally, but not always, a very small advance on eastern figures. The general stores in the smaller villages usually carry full lines of luxuries as well as the necessities of life. The large implement firms have agencies in almost every settlement and lumber yards have also been established.

Irrigation.

In the southern portion of the District of Alberta and the western portion of the District of Assiniboinia it is now generally recognized that irrigation is necessary to ensure the production of grain or fodder crops, the rainfall during the growing season being too small to produce certain crops by the ordinary methods of farming. The aridity of these districts, while necessitating irrigation, really constitutes one of the chief features in the great success which has attended stock raising and dairying therein, the dry summer seasons being accompanied by an almost total absence of flies, and resulting in a natural curing of the prairie grass in such a manner that the nutritive qualities are retained, and stock grazing outside during the winter will keep in good condition.

With irrigation to produce good fodder crops, ranching or dairy farming in these portions of the Territories offer many attractions to the incoming immigrant who does not want to go in for purely farming operations, and very satisfactory development in both of these lines has taken place during the past few years. Irrigation in these districts has now extended entirely beyond the experimental stage and the experience of the past few years has conclusively proved that the crops of grain, including wheat, oats and barley, and fodder crops including timothy, bromus and alfalfa, as well as all kinds of roots and vegetables raised by means of irrigation, will compare favorably with crops of a similar character produced in the ordinary way in any other portion of the Northwest Territories.

The large and healthy growth of irrigation development is entirely the outcome of the efforts of the resident population to supply the only need (fodder), to make the arid portion of the Territories an ideal stock and dairying country, and is not in any sense attributable to efforts to "boom" irrigation or the construction of irrigation works.

The irrigation works in operation in the different portions of the arid region may be divided into the following districts :

	Canals and Ditches in operation.
Calgary District.....	71
High River District.....	11
Macleod "	9
Pincher Creek "	13
Lethbridge "	15
Maple Creek "	20
Battleford "	6
Regina "	5
	<hr/>
	150

These ditches or canals comprise a total length of some 496 miles, and the acreage susceptible of irrigation therefrom is approximately 397,250 acres. The larger number of these ditches and canals are private undertakings, constructed for the irrigation of lands belonging to individual owners or ranch companies, but some of the larger works such as those constructed by the Calgary Irrigation Company, the Calgary Hydraulic Company, and the Alberta Irrigation Company are corporate undertakings designed to supply a large quantity of water and reclaim large areas of land as business ventures. Good farms susceptible of irrigation from these large canals can be obtained at very reasonable figures, with the further advantage that under the Northwest Irrigation Act an absolute title is obtained to the water required for irrigation and the irrigation farmer is not subjected to the disputes and troubles regarding water rights which have hampered irrigation development in other portions of Western America.

Farming by means of irrigation is a novelty to immigrants from the older portions of the Dominion of Canada and from Great Britain, and several of the European countries, but to the immigrant from those portions of the older countries where irrigation is practiced, and from the Western portion of the United States, the opportunity of obtaining a good irrigated farm affords a primary inducement to locate and make a home for himself and family in this portion of the Northwest Territories.

Milling in Western Canada.

Wheat-flour milling is the most important manufacturing interest in Western Canada, and the product not only finds a ready market throughout the whole Dominion, but is exported to Great Britain, Newfoundland, China and Japan and Australia. Mills are located at different points throughout the country, one at Keewatin having a daily capacity of 2,300 barrels, and another at Winnipeg of 2,500 barrels, and the total daily capacity of 64 mills reaches 11,765 barrels. There are also oatmeal mills in operation at Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Pilot Mound and South Edmonton, having a daily capacity of about 425 barrels.

Elevators.

The elevator system throughout Western Canada is perfect, the facilities now existing being sufficient to handle, if necessary, 100,000,000 bushels of grain in less than six months' time. The magnificent system affords a ready market at all seasons of the year, the farmer being enabled to have his grain unloaded from his wagon, elevated, cleaned and loaded on the cars in

an incredibly short space of time at very moderate charges. It is within the right of anybody or company to erect an elevator anywhere in Manitoba and the Territories under exactly the same terms and conditions as those already built, the markets being open to anyone who chooses to engage in the business. There is no monopoly. Farmers are also given the privilege of loading their grain directly into the cars from their wagons. The following table shows the storage capacity of the elevators in Western Canada :

	Bushels.
C.P.R. Main Line, Port Arthur to Winnipeg.....	8,830,500
C.P.R. west of Winnipeg.....	9,510,000
N.P.R.....	1,450,000
M. & N. W.....	1,281,500
G.N.W. Central R.....	409,000
Dauphin R.R.....	240,000
 Grand Total.....	 21,721,000

In 1891 the total storage capacity was 7,628,000 bushels ; in 1892, 10,366,-700 bushels ; in 1894, 11,467,000 bushels ; in 1895, 13,076,200 bushels ; in 1896, 15,203,500 bushels, and in 1897, 18,624,500 bushels. Last year the capacity was increased by 3,096,500 bushels.

Western Canada Experimental Farms.

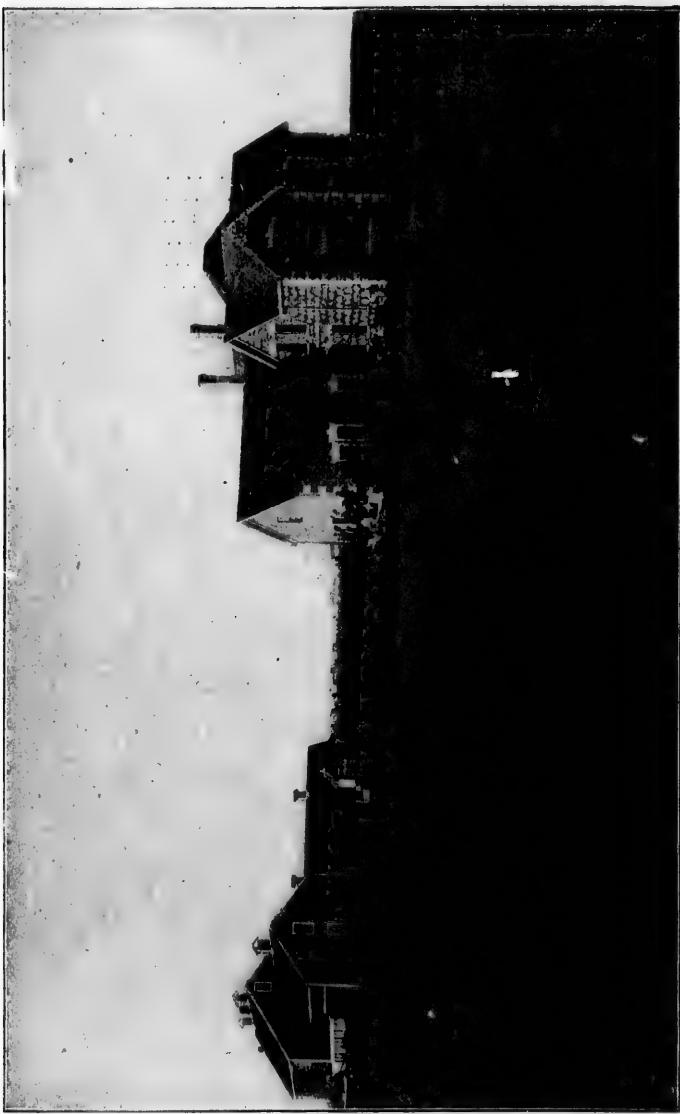
There are experimental farms at Brandon, Manitoba, and Indian Head, Assiniboia, under the management of the Dominion Government. At Brandon the record of the yields per acre for the past season were : Wheat, from 18 to 45 bushels ; oats, 60 to 114 ; barley, 35 to 68 ; Peas, 23 to 59 ; Swede Turnips, 500 to 1,500 bushels ; mangels, 600 to 2,100 bushels ; Potatoes, 200 to 600 bushels ; Early sown Red Fife wheat, 45 bushels ; late sown Red Fife wheat, 16 bushels ; early sown Banner oats, 119 bushels ; late sown Banner oats, 61 bushels ; early sown Odessa barley, 67 bushels ; late sown Odessa barley, 60 bushels ; early sown Mummy peas, 49 bushels ; late sown Mummy peas, 37 bushels ; Alfalfa clover, 2 tons, 1,800 lbs. ; Common Red Clover, 2 tons, 1,300 lbs. ; Brome grass, 2 tons, 500 lbs. ; Native Lyme grass, 3½ tons.

At Indian Head the yield per acre of wheat 21½ to 45½ bushels ; oats, 29½ to 88½ bushels ; barley 30½ to 57½ bushels ; peas, 28½ to 57½ bushels.

In addition to these farms the government of the Northwest Territories is arranging to operate Experimental Agricultural Stations in the various districts of the Territories, of uniform climatic and soil conditions, in order to determine the most profitable varieties of plants, trees, fruits, etc., for each district, and also to ascertain the breeds of live stock which may be brought to the highest state of perfection in every individual locality. It is estimated that some eight or ten of these stations will be required to meet the demands of the enormous territory which they are intended to serve. From 10 to 20 acres of land will be under cultivation at each Government Station and in addition to furnishing valuable information to the settlers in the country, these experimental plots will enable the visitor, or intending settler, to judge for himself as to the possibilities of any particular district before finally deciding upon a location.

Government Encouragement of Pure Bred Stock Importation.

Owing to the comparatively recent settlement of Western Canada, especially the Northwest Territories, it is not to be expected that establish-



GEORGE MOTHERALL'S HOMESTEAD AT MANITOOU, MANITOBA.

ments for the rearing of pure bred stock could yet be numerous enough to meet the growing demands of the country for that class of stock. There are now a large number of pure bred animals raised in the West, but in order to facilitate the importation of the best blood on the continent of America, the Territorial Government has decided to grant, under certain regulations, a bonus of about \$10 on every head of pure bred cattle brought into the Northwest Territories from the breeding farms of the Province of Ontario. Arrangements have also been made with the transportation companies for reduced rates, and the Government now undertakes to take entire charge of the shipment of such stock. The total expense of importing these animals from Ontario points to any portion of the Northwest Territories is thus, taking into consideration the bonus, reduced to a uniform cost of \$5 per head, including care, feed, transport, etc., etc., to the nearest railway station of the settler in the West.

United States Press on the Canadian West.

During the summer of 1898 the Press Associations of Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin made a trip through Western Canada. The following are the official reports of the associations and the editorial remarks of some of the journalists :

(Minnesota Press Association Official Report).

Starting from Winnipeg we travelled to the Rocky Mountains over a magnificent prairie country, through the southern part of the provinces of Manitoba, Assiniboia and Alberta. North of the last two are the provinces of Saskatchewan, Athabasca and Yukon, which five form the Northwest Territory. This section, which is as large as the Northwestern States, includes a vast amount of desirable land for ranching and general farming. For 900 miles west from Winnipeg and 500 miles north from the American line is arable soil. It is a great territory, capable of sustaining tens of millions of population, while the total population to-day is but about 500,000. It is not all a vast prairie, as many think, though much of Manitoba and of the southern stretch of boundary land is treeless like the Red River Valley, and includes some of the richest and most fertile lands to be found on this continent. North of the Canadian Pacific it is more varied and a splendid country is just being opened to settlement, and railroads are being pushed through to give the new settlers a market. In all these provinces named, a homestead law is in operation which is similar to that of the United States ; it is, in fact, modeled after it. At the end of only three years, however, he can prove up, the expense being but \$10. Vast amounts of this best land is thus subject to the homestead law, even in Manitoba and in the southern portions of the Northwest Territory, where substantial towns afford a near and reliable market.

To the small farmer who is seeking a new home, we believe Western Canada offers great inducements.

(Michigan Press Association Official Report).

We recognize in the great agricultural resources of North Western Canada vast possibilities for its future. The expanse of territory between the Rocky Mountains and Winnipeg, reaching to Edmonton, and even beyond, is boundless in wealth for future generations, in grazing and raising all kinds of crops. It is but partially developed at present, and offers great inducements to homes seekers, and is destined to become one of the richest and most important sections of the North American continent. The scenery along the Canadian Pacific railway through the Rocky Mountains is grand

and magnificent beyond comparison and offers to the tourist greater delights than the Alps of Switzerland. It is also very rich in mineral wealth—gold, silver, copper and mica—the development of which has but just begun.

(*From the Morris, Minnesota, Sun.*).

One could not make such a journey and not be impressed with the great future Canada, and especially the Western portion has before it, for with excellent transportation facilities, exceptional educational advantages, a splendid invigorating climate, vast areas of productive soil, the rich character of which is demonstrated by continuous prolific crop yields, millions of acres of choice grazing lands, richness of mineral and forest resources, and wealth of ocean, lake and stream, the tide of immigration that its free lands and liberal homestead laws and other advantages must attract, will soon develop, and with this settlement will come an era of progressive advancement never excelled in the history of our country. The zone of the greatest and best wheat producing region on this continent is in the territory where the waters run northward, and the provinces of Western Canada and the states that join the southern borders well, with their vast areas of arable soil, enormous expanses of grazing lands, and peculiar climatic conditions, be the source of the world's principal food supply. Canada has also a great future and one full of promise along other than material lines, for the citizens are a liberty-loving, law-abiding, honorable people, whose energies and ambitions are controlled and guided by a conscientious and conservative intelligence that will place her first among the world's most advanced and progressive nations. Enjoying a climate healthy and invigorating, under a government of wise laws well administered, in a land rich in its bounteous wealth of natural resources, and with a soil of prolific fertility, it is no wonder the people of the Canadian Northwest are peaceful, happy, contented and prosperous, or that evidence of a progressive and substantial development are everywhere noticeable.

(*From the St. Peter, Minnesota, Herald.*).

The most of us living in the States have a very faint idea of the Empire which lies beyond us, and we have a far poorer appreciation of the development of the country. From Winnipeg to the Coast the distance is about 2,000 miles, covering one of the finest agricultural regions in the world, and destined in the fullness of time to become a veritable Empire, inhabited by millions of industrious people. The Canadian Government has already interested itself in the matter of immigration and by practically offering free homes, has started a train of settlers in that direction, and a few years are bound to find it an inhabited and prosperous country.

(*From the St. Cloud, Minnesota, Journal.*).

Between Winnipeg and the foot hills which mark the approach to the mountains, lie not only thousands of acres, but thousands of square miles of choice agricultural lands, waiting only the hand of man to make them yield most generously in cereal products. While largely prairie, there is still much timber, and in certain localities near to the railroad, anthracite coal is mined in great abundance, thus solving the fuel problem for the prairie districts. The soil is in some places a sandy loam and in others is rich and heavy with a clay sub-soil, just such soil as yields enormous crops of wheat and oats. Some of these yields, abundantly verified, seem almost fabulous.

(Two Harbors News, Lake Co., Min.).

While the scenery of Western Canada will always attract tourists, while her mountains are treasure houses for precious metals and coal, and her pine forests represent millions of wealth, we regard her farming lands the source of her greatest future prosperity. There are millions of acres of the best wheat and grazing lands, as yet almost untrodden by white men. The homestead laws are liberal, and the railroads are keeping pace with settlement.

(Alexandria, Minnesota, Post News).

One of the great surprises in these first towns was the class of buildings. They were large, often three and four stories and very largely of brick and stone, modern in design, substantial and costly. The homes also were attractive and handsome, not at all like the prairie towns on our side of the line.

(Prairie Gleaner, Plainview, Wabara Co., Minnesota).

Canada is a big country with variety enough to suit almost any kind of a settler. The farmer will find lands suited to any branch of agriculture. The stock raiser will find grazing lands in such quantities that he will never be able to put a fence around all of them.

(West St. Paul Times, St. Paul, Minnesota).

Canada has boundless acres of soil which have been proven of a most productive character. These broad acres can be had for the asking with an agreement to cultivate. Men who have settled have grown wealthy. The Canadian Pacific and branch lines place a large part of the country within reach of a market, and as it settles up no doubt other lines will be projected which will reach those sections not now touched. There is a great future ahead for Canada. In a few years it will be the only unoccupied territory on the North American continent, and settlers will be forced to seek in this section their free lands. Soon this great empire, with its rapidly increasing immigration, its stately and growing cities, its marvellously productive plains and its mountains rich in minerals, will exert an influence on the American continent not now dreamed of.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.'S PUBLICATIONS.

Among the publications issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company are pamphlets or folders entitled "British Columbia," "The Gold Fields of Cariboo and Kootenay," "Northwestern Ontario Gold Fields," "The Klondike and Gold Fields of the Yukon," "New Route to Hawaii and Australia," "Around the World," "New Highway to the Orient," "Fishing and Shooting," "Westward to the Far East" and "East to the West" (guides to the principal cities of Japan and China), "The Climates of Canada," "Banff," "A Trip to Hawaii," "Historic Quebec" and a series of "Summer Tours," which can be obtained free of charge from agents of the company.



HARVESTING IN WESTERN CANADA.

How to Reach the Canadian West.

Colonists having arrived in Canada at Quebec or Montreal in summer, or Halifax or St. John, N.B., in winter, travel to new homes in Ontario, Manitoba, the Territories, or British Columbia by the Canadian Pacific Railway direct. Settlers from the Eastern States travel via Montreal, Prescott or Brockville, and thence by the Canadian Pacific; but if from southern and western New York or Pennsylvania via Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto and North Bay, thence Canadian Pacific Railway; those from the Middle States either by Toronto, or by Sault Ste. Marie and Portage, Assiniboia, via St. Paul; from the Middle Western States by Portage, (or, if for Manitoba by Gretna, Man.); from the Pacific Coast States by Vancouver or Huntingdon, or through the West Kootenay mining regions and Canadian Pacific from Rossland and Nelson. On the same fast transcontinental trains with the first-class cars are colonist cars, which are convertible into sleeping cars at night, having upper and lower berths constructed on the same principle as those of first class sleeping cars, and equally as comfortable as to ventilation, etc. They are taken through, without change, all the way from Montreal to Manitoba. No other railway can do this. No extra charge is made for this sleeping accommodation. Second-class passengers, however, must provide their own bedding. If they do not bring it with them, a complete outfit of mattress, pillow, blanket and curtains will be supplied by the agent of the company at the point of starting, at a cost of \$2.50—ten shillings. The curtains may be hung around a berth, turning it into a little private room. In addition to this, men travelling alone are cut off from families by a partition across the car near the middle, and smoking is not permitted in that part of the car where the women and children are.

The trains stop at stations where meals are served in refreshment rooms, and where hot coffee and tea and well-cooked food may be bought at very reasonable prices. The cars are not allowed to become over-crowded, and the safety and welfare of passengers are carefully attended to. Every possible care is taken that the colonist does not go astray, lose his property or suffer imposition. Where a large number of colonists are going to the west together special fast trains of colonist sleeping cars are despatched.

No other railway in America offers such good accommodation to colonist passengers as does the Canadian Pacific.

All trains are met upon arrival at Winnipeg, or before reaching that city, by the agents of the Government and Canadian Pacific Railway Company, who give colonists all the information and advice they require in regard to their new home.

In cases where some locality for settlement has been selected, at which friends are awaiting them, they are shown how to proceed directly to that point. If they have not decided upon such a locality, but intend to seek a home somewhere further west, every information can be obtained at the Company's Land Office, or the Government Immigration Office in Winnipeg.

Special round-trip explorers' tickets can be obtained at the Company's Land Office, the full price of which will be refunded if the holder purchases 160 acres or more. In this way land hunters are enabled to make a personal inspection of the land free of cost for themselves.

Most men wish to examine and choose for themselves the section which

seems to them the most suitable, and this is strongly recommended in every case. They are assisted in doing this by officials appointed by the government for the purpose. Meanwhile, the family and baggage can remain at the government immigration house in safety and comfort. Providing themselves with food in the city markets, they can cook their own meals upon the stoves in the house, and, with the bedding that has served them during their journey, they can sleep in comfort in the bunk bedsteads with which the rooms are fitted. Should they prefer, however, to stop at an hotel, they will find in Winnipeg public houses of all grades, where the total cost for each person varies from \$1 (4s.) to \$3 (12s.) a day, according to circumstances, and boarding houses are numerous, at which the charges are somewhat lower.

It sometimes happens that the intending settler has not much more than sufficient money to carry him as far as Winnipeg. In that case he will be anxious to begin immediately to earn some money. The Dominion Government has an agency at Winnipeg, whose business it is to be informed where labor is needed. Societies representing almost all the nationalities of Europe have been formed in Winnipeg, and will welcome and see to the welfare of their respective countrymen.

At certain seasons farmers are on the look-out for able men and pay good wages, generally averaging \$15 (£3) to \$20 (£4) per month and board, and during harvesting as high as from \$25 to \$40 per month and board is paid. The girls of a family usually find employment in Winnipeg and other towns, in domestic service, in hotels, shops, factories and establishments employing female labor. Good wages are paid to capable girls and little time is lost in getting a situation.



ROBERT WALSH'S WHEAT FIELD, NEAR CALGARY.

NORTHERN ONTARIO.

The Rainy River District.

While this pamphlet is chiefly devoted to a description of the prairie regions of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, it will not be out of place to refer briefly to the unsettled lands of Northwestern Ontario. To those who prefer a land of river, lake and forest to a prairie country—or to those who prefer to remain nearer the Eastern Provinces of the Dominion, the Rainy River District presents many attractions.

Before reaching Manitoba, the traveller on the C.P.R. passes through the northern portion of this region, but the fertile belt, estimated to contain about 600,000 acres of good agricultural land, lies principally in the valley of the Rainy River. The Rainy River forms for some distance the boundary between Ontario and the United States. It is a fine navigable stream from 150 to 200 yards wide, and connects the Lake of the Woods with Rainy Lake, a distance of about eighty miles. The river passes through a rich, alluvial tract of a uniform black loam of great depth. Nearly all the land fronting on the river is suitable for agriculture, and a considerable settlement already exists there. Fort Frances, the principal town on Rainy River, has a sawmill and several flourishing stores and industries; its population is about 1,400. The region is reached during the season of navigation by steamer from Rat Portage, on the main line of the C.P.R. The climate in winter, while being perhaps a few degrees colder than that of older Ontario, is remarkably healthful and pleasant, and the snow fall is not deep. Vegetation is luxuriant in the extreme; all the cereal and grass crops common to Ontario grow there, and garden crops flourish exceedingly. The country is well wooded with pine, oak, elm, ash, basswood, soft maple, poplar, birch, balsam, spruce, cedar and tamarack. Lumbering operations are extensively carried on, and there are well-equipped sawmills on Rainy River, Rainy Lake and at Rat Portage. As a mining region the Rainy River district is yet in its infancy, but its possibilities in this regard are known to be very great. Numerous and valuable discoveries of gold and other minerals have been made throughout the district, and at the present time the country is attracting the attention of capitalists and investors. There are several important gold mines now being worked on the Lake of the Woods, Rainy Lake and Seine River, and elsewhere mining operations are being actively carried on. Thus the mining and lumbering industries combined, afford the settler the best of markets for his produce at prices considerably higher than can be secured in Eastern Ontario. The land is owned and administered by the Government of Ontario (Department of Crown Lands, Toronto), and free grants are made of 160 acres to a head of a family having children under 18 years of age residing with him (or her); and 120 acres to a single man over 18, or to a married man not having children under 18 residing with him; each person obtaining a free grant to have the privilege of purchasing 80 acres additional, at the rate of \$1.00 (four shillings), per acre, payable in four annual instalments, with interest, and the patent may be issued at the expiration of three years from the date of location or purchase, upon completion of the settlement duties.

Any person may explore Crown lands for minerals, and mining lands may be purchased outright or leased at rates fixed by the Mines Act. The minimum area of a location is forty acres. Prices range from \$2 to \$3 per acre, the higher price for lands in surveyed territory and within six miles of a



THRESHING IN WESTERN CANADA.

railway. The rental charge is at the rate of \$1 per acre for the first year and 25 cents per acre for subsequent years; but the leasehold may be converted into freehold at the option of the tenant but at any time during the term of the lease, in which case the first year's rent is allowed on the purchase money. A royalty of not more than two per cent. is reserved, based on the value of the ore, less cost of mining and subsequent treatment for the market.

The Wabigoon Country, Rainy River District.

North of the country bordering on the Rainy River, described above, and directly on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, is a section to which the Wabigoon River gives its name. Attention was first drawn to it two years ago by the Ontario Government establishing there what was called a "Pioneer Farm," for the purpose of demonstrating the agricultural capabilities of the country, which had hitherto remained undeveloped. The precise location of the farm is 215 miles east of Winnipeg, and 80 miles east of Rat Portage. After one year's successful experiment the land was thrown open for settlement (that is, in the spring of 1896), since which time it has been rapidly taken up. The settlers consist almost entirely of a good class of Ontario farmers, and the development of the country is being pushed forward with energy. The little town of Dryden, on the C. P. R., and Wabigoon are the business centres of the district. They possess a number of stores, hotels, railway stations, small sawmill, etc., and have steamboat communications via Lake Wabigoon with the mines in the vicinity.

The land is not free grant, but it is sold to actual sellers only, at fifty cents per acre (consequent upon certain improvements), one-third down and the balance in three annual instalments. How much agricultural land there may be available at this point has not as yet been definitely ascertained, but it is known to be limited in extent. The chief advantages of the country are as follows: First, the Canadian Pacific Railway passes through it, which renders access easy at all times of the year, and places it within the reach of such centres as Rat Portage and Winnipeg. Second, good markets are to be found in the mining and lumbering camps near-by, and also at Rat Portage, a thriving town on the C. P. R., and the centre of the milling and mining industries of the district. Third, the land, although not a prairie, is easily cleared. Some stretches are entirely destitute of timber, having been swept by forest fires, and require only a little underbrushing before the plough starts to work. Elsewhere the growth is light, and may be cleared with much less labor than is required in heavily timbered countries. At the same time, sufficient large timber for building purposes is to be found here and there, so that, as will be seen, the advantages of a prairie and of a timbered country are here combined to a large extent. The country is well watered, and possesses a good soil and a good climate. It is adapted to mixed farming, but particularly to dairying and stock-raising.

Algoma and Nipissing Districts.

In the vicinity of Port Arthur and Fort William, two important points on Thunder Bay, Lake Superior, there are a number of townships of good agricultural land similar to that of the Rainy River Valley, besides a country rich in gold, silver and iron. Eastward along the north shore of Lake Superior, the country is found to be wild and rocky in the extreme. Whatever may be its mineral wealth, which has not as yet been ascertained to any extent, it is certainly not suited to agriculture. At Sault Ste. Marie, however, at the junction of Lakes Superior and Huron, another stretch of country adapted for settlement is reached. The country to the north of Lake Huron is known as the Algoma District, and includes St. Joseph and

Great Manitoulin Islands. It contains a large proportion of fertile land, but sparsely settled, yet considerable development has already taken place. Already there are thriving settlements not only on the large settlements of St. Joseph and Manitoulin, but here and there along the north shore also, from Goulias Bay, about twenty or twenty-five miles northeast of Sault Ste. Marie to the valley of Mississauga, some eighty miles to the eastward, and elsewhere. The country is fairly accessible, the Canadian Pacific running through it from end to end, and this fact, together with its nearness to centres of population, and the cheapness of its land, ranging from 50 cents to \$2.50 per acre, renders it an attractive field for settlement. There seems to be no doubt that it will one day become the seat of very large sheep-raising, dairy and stock-raising interests, for which purpose it is pre-eminently adapted.

Sault Ste. Marie is the central point of the Algoma District. The town is easily reached either from older Ontario or the United States. It is situated on the "Soo line," a branch of the Canadian Pacific, connecting with St. Paul and Minneapolis in the west and Boston in the east. In addition several steamship lines call there.

The land, while very rich, is not in an unbroken, continuous stretch, as is the case in the southern portion of Ontario. Its physical characteristics and appearance are entirely different, and is adapted to special lines of agricultural production. Taken as a whole, the country may be described as an undulating plateau or table-land, elevated some 600 or 1,000 feet above the sea level, covered for the most part by a vigorous growth of forest. Between the ridges and protected by them, stretches of arable land, often unbroken for thousands of acres, wind in and out. As a dairy, stock and sheep-raising country it has all the advantages of cheap land, good transportation facilities, rich soil, good water and cheap building material, while its climate is unequalled for the production of vigorous stock and vigorous men.

The Algoma and Nipissing districts are known to be rich in a variety of minerals. Gold, silver, copper and iron have been discovered to the north of Lake Huron and elsewhere, and it contains the most extensive nickel deposits in the world, which are now being worked in the vicinity of Sudbury.

The Temiskaming Country.

Another agricultural section in the northern part of the province is the Temiskaming country, which borders on Lake Temiskaming, a broadening of the Ottawa River. It is in the Nipissing District and about two hundred and fifty miles north of Toronto in a direct line. It is reached from Mattawa on the C. P. R., partly by railway, along the eastern bank of the Ottawa River, and afterwards by steamboat to Lake Temiskaming.

The whole country is overlaid by a rich alluvial soil, level in character, and equal in fertility to any in the province. The land is thickly timbered with a somewhat small growth, but for the most part may be cleared without excessive labor. Its capabilities as to climate and productiveness are very similar to those of the country above described, but its unbroken character gives it an additional attraction. There are fully 600,000 acres of very fertile farm land in this section, which has been placed on the market at fifty cents per acre. The country is very little settled as yet, but is attracting quite a number of settlers from the older parts of Ontario and Quebec, and is well worthy of attention. The region of the Upper Ottawa is to-day one of the most important lumbering districts in Canada, and affords the settler an excellent market for the products of the farm.

A pamphlet giving full particulars regarding Northern Districts of Ontario may be obtained on application to the Department of Crown Lands, Toronto, Ontario.

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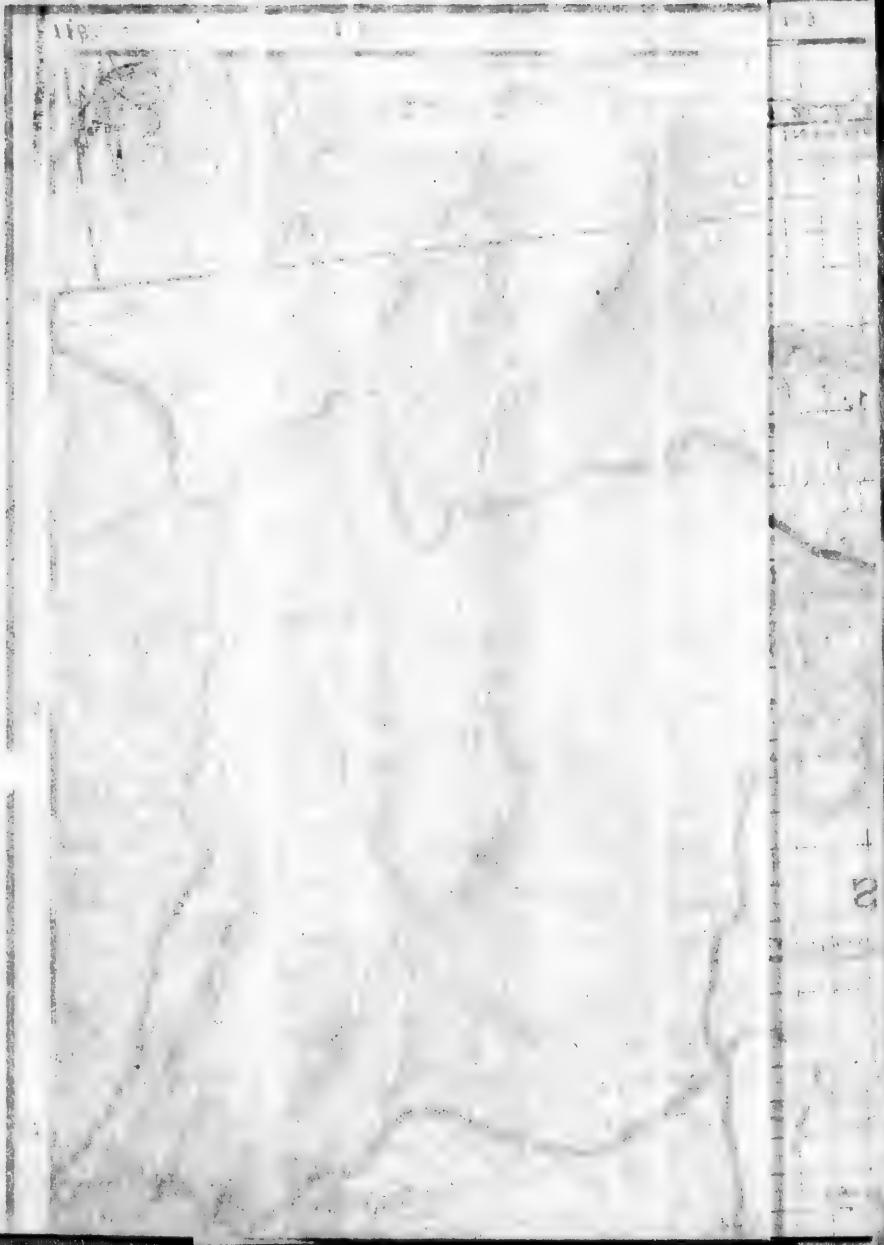
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MANITOBA, ALBERTA
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MAP OF
WESTERN CANADA
MANITOBA, ALBERTA, ASSINIBOIA, SASKATCHEWAN AND PART OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
SHOWING SYSTEM OF LAND SURVEY AND LINES OF THE
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

This historical map of Northern British Columbia and Southern Yukon, Canada, provides a detailed view of the region's geography and early infrastructure. The map is overlaid with a grid system and features numerous place names, including:

- Rivers and Lakes:** Nass River, Skeena River, Bulkley River, Adams River, Bella Coola River, Fraser River, Thompson River, Peace River, Liard River, Mackenzie River, Great Bear Lake, Great Slave Lake, and numerous smaller lakes and streams.
- Towns and Settlements:** Hazelton, Smithers, Prince George, Fort St. James, Fort Vermilion, Fort Nelson, Quesnel, Williams Lake, Kamloops, Merritt, Cache Creek, Quesnel Lake, Princeton, Hope, Lillooet, Pemberton, Whistler, Squamish, North Vancouver, and Vancouver.
- Infrastructure:** A complex network of railroads, including the Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) and the Canadian National Railway (CN), which intersect at various points. Townships are marked with dashed lines and letters (e.g., A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z).
- Geography:** The map shows the transition from the Coast Mountains in the west to the Rocky Mountains in the east. Major mountain ranges include the Coast Mountains, Cariboo Mountains, and Monashee Mountains.

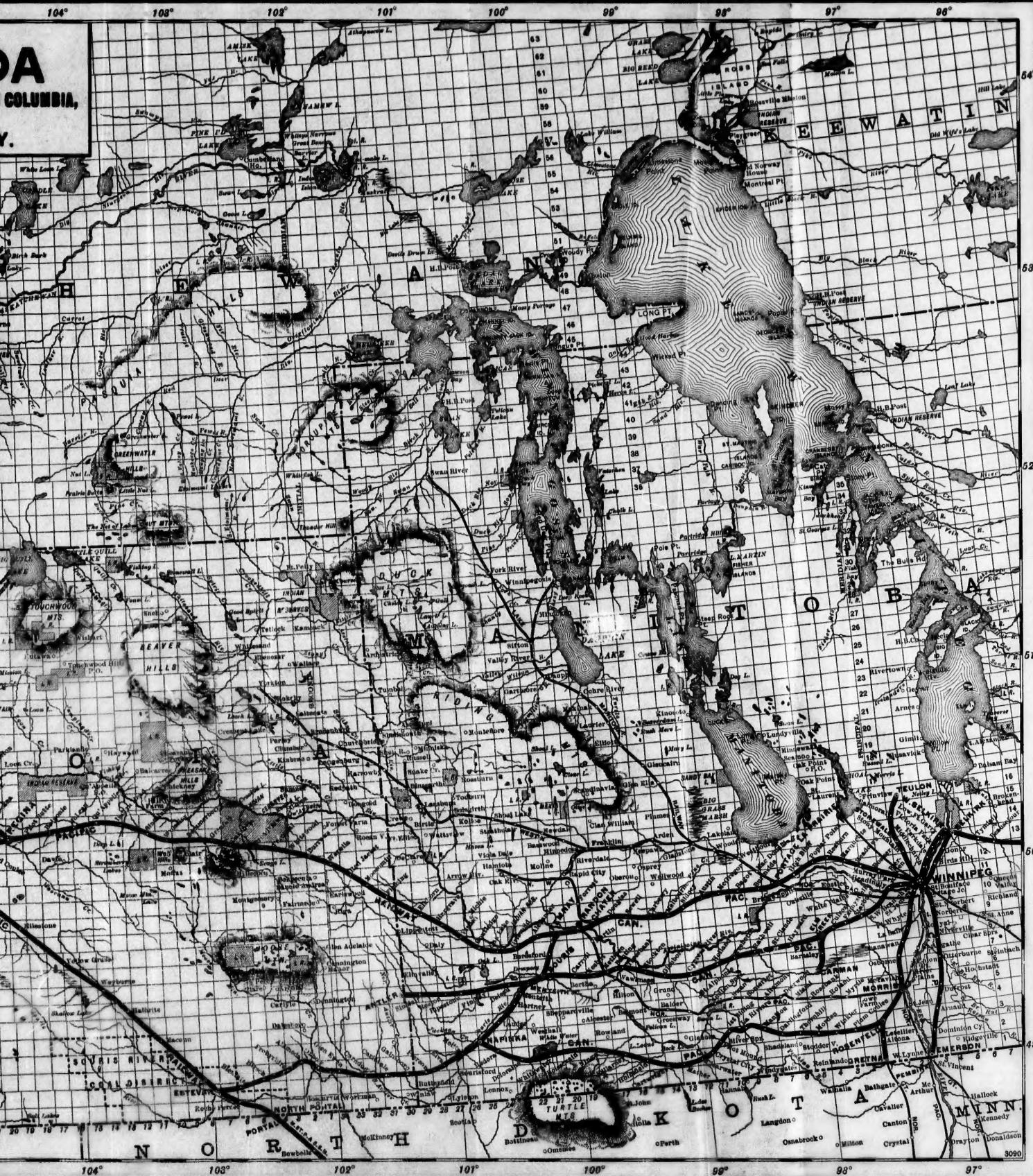
The map also includes a scale bar at the bottom indicating distances in miles and kilometers, and a north arrow pointing towards the top right.

108° **108° Longitude** **West** **107° from** **Greenwich.** **106°** **105°** **104°**

MAP OF
WESTERN CANADA
MANITOBA, ALBERTA, ASSINIBOIA, SASKATCHEWAN AND PART OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
SHOWING SYSTEM OF LAND SURVEY AND LINES OF THE
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